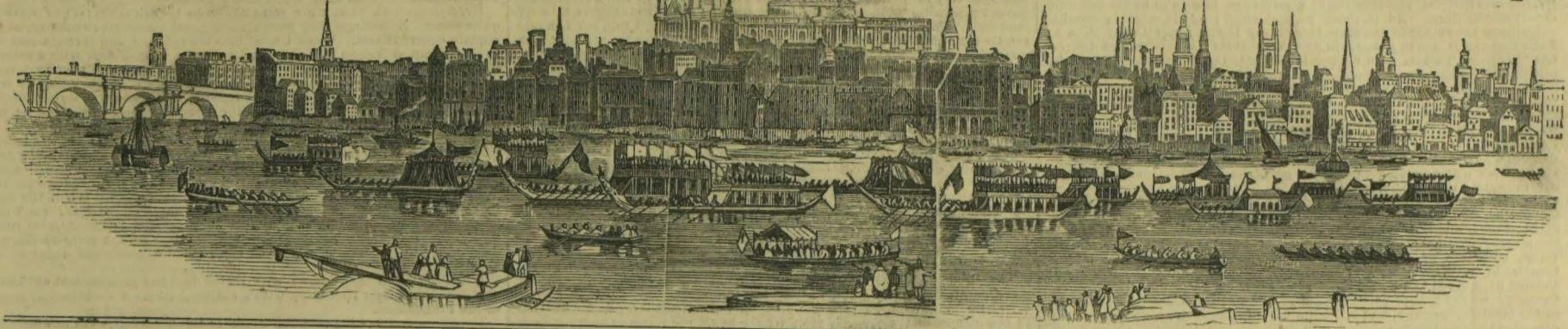


THE ILLUSTRATED LENDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1845.

[SIXPENCE.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

DOWNING-STREET has been without its regular official tenants, its inmates only holding possession and answering the calls as a matter of accommodation till it is known who is to have the key of the door. The centre of political interest has still been Chesham-place, and many and anxious are the eyes directed towards the mansion of Lord John Russell—the possible, or proximate, or probable Minister, or maker of a Ministry, for everything is so uncertain that we hardly know how to class him. It appears that all the deliberations of the chiefs of the Whig party have been, not on the actual construction of the new Government, but on the question whether they shall undertake the task of constructing it. The question debated for so many days has been, shall we do it? not, how is it to be done? This delay in accepting a task at the command of the Sovereign, proves, at least, that great difficulties surround it. One party being out, is by no means the same thing as another coming in; and whatever may be the "hunger for the vacant chair," it would be useless for the successor to take his seat on it merely to be pushed from it immediately. It is very easy to be bold in opposition, but office plunges every man into the midst of intricacies that require caution and dexterity. Lord John Russell naturally asks, "If I take power how long can I keep it? and what support can I depend on?" In short, what are his prospects on taking office? Another question should, perhaps, go before it—what made Sir Robert Peel resign it?

The true explanation of the reasons for that apparently inexplicable step, would give us the clue to the maze in which all parties seem at present involved. To ordinary observers it appears unaccountable—an effect without an adequate cause. At the present moment the winter is mild—the stock of Corn in England reported to be quite an average one—prices by no means high or excessive; and employment still sufficient, though symptoms of a decline in the demand for some kinds of labour are showing themselves. Ministries have steered frailer barks than the vessel commanded by Peel, over rougher seas than now threaten us. Why, then, is the helm abandoned to other hands? Such are the feelings of many at the present moment—a mixture of dislike, suspicion, and perplexity.

On the other side it is replied, the present condition of things is not the sole point to be considered; the failure of a great staple of food in the poorest and most populous division of the Empire is proved. There are many months to be provided for between the present time and next harvest; should we want a supply from other countries, Europe has not got any surplus to send us; on the wide plains of Poland—the great terror of the English farmer, as the source of an overwhelming competition against him—there is at this moment actual famine. There is an universal impression that a scarcity threatens the greater portion of the Old World, for every Government of Europe has taken measures of precaution against it. A statesman governing a nation like this, and judging from knowledge as full and perfect as unlimited means of enquiry can procure him, and feeling his awful responsibility, cannot but be influenced by this general, though, at present, somewhat vague terror, and wishes to do something; he cannot remain quiet while all other Powers are acting. What he proposed to do, is not fully explained; all we know is, that his colleagues refuse to coincide with him, and that a Government with a great majority in the Commons, and with any opposition to it hopeless in the Lords, has fallen to pieces, giving to its political foes an opportunity they could hardly have dreamed of winning for themselves.

Either, then, there is a great and stern necessity which compels the late Premier to adopt a certain course to meet it, or the resignation is—not exactly a trick perhaps—but an experiment on the capability of others to govern instead of him; if the Ultra-Protectionists under the Duke of Richmond are afraid to try—if the Abolitionists under Lord John Russell try and fail—what then remains but for Peel to come into power again with more influence than ever? There is one alternative besides, but it is scarcely possible; it is that of a Russell holding office, and the late chief of the Conservatives supporting him! Years of gradual approximation may end at last in an actual alliance; but we must confess, of all the speculations of a time when nothing but speculation is to be met with, this seems the most improbable, though Sydney Smith, some years ago, predicted something of the kind: "There never was an instance in this country where parties were so nearly balanced, and in a very few years either Peel will swallow Lord John, or Lord John will pasture upon Peel; parties will coalesce, the Duke of Wellington and Viscount Melbourne meet at the same board, and the Lion lie down with the Lamb." When that was written, parties were very

equally balanced, but the last General Election gave an overwhelming preponderance to the Conservatives; and when that was gained, their Leader immediately began to assimilate as much as possible his policy to that of his opponents, gradually breaking down the great distinctions between them. The more able he was to govern on his own principles, the greater disposition he exhibited to abandon them. The whole history of party for the last four years has been a contradiction and an anomaly, and now it has become confusion worse confounded. Something must shape itself out of the chaos, but it almost defies calculation to predict what it will be. In fact, at the present crisis, "making a Ministry" is a task of unusual difficulty. We cannot recall an instance in which any party Leader was called on to undertake it, with a clear majority of ninety against him in Parliament: how can he encounter such desperate odds? He can only meet them officially to encounter assured defeat; and then the whole matter is thrown upon the country for decision.

In whatever way, then, this "making a Ministry" may terminate, it is a matter of secondary importance compared with the next stage of the proceedings—the appeal to the country. Men may take office, but to another and greater authority they must look for power. Compared with that part of the struggle, the personnel of the new Ministry, whoever may compose it, is a thing indifferent.

It seems to us a marvel that the great landed interest, so strong in both Houses, should not at least have made a trial of the possibility of a Government of their own. Why are they always content to let others act for them, with the liability of being, as they have unquestionably been, deceived and betrayed?

As we write, the rumours are strengthened, that the decision of Lord John Russell is a determination to attempt to construct a Free Trade Government. Conversions have been rife lately in the Whig ranks—some so close on the eleventh hour, as to induce misgivings of the motive. With these recruits he may succeed; but it would be better, perhaps, if he gave to the country an Administration including men chosen a little beyond the small circle—almost a family one—of the Whig Aristocracy. Old associations, and the traditions of office, allot the chief posts to the old names; but for the subordinate departments, a few more fresh and unworn might be introduced with advantage. The last few years of the Liberal Government left disastrous recollections. A mere re-production of that ill-starred body would not awaken much enthusiasm on the hustings, and on that decision everything, beyond a few feverish months of official existence, must depend. The question here broached may become more pressing a few years hence than it is now, but still it is one which those who have the "making a Ministry," will find worth consideration.



LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S HOUSE, CHESHAM-PLACE.

During Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Lord John Russell's house in Chesham-place, Belgrave-square, was the meeting-place for the most eminent members of his party. There were daily interviews, some of them of long duration; and of course, during the Ministerial crisis, the public took great interest in watching the progress of these conferences. We may add that, in spite of the important matters which were under arrangement at Chesham-place, that locality on Tuesday did not present the least symptom of excitement. Our artist, who went there to take a sketch of the spot, mentions the disappointment he felt at not seeing any objects to afford scope for his pencil. He says—"A profound silence, uninterrupted by even the humblest vehicle, reigned all about the place. There was no crowd, as I or anybody would have expected, waiting anxiously for the decision of the important matters under discussion inside the house. No rattling of chaises and four, bringing into town the future arbiters of the British empire, disturbed the usual stillness of this spot. Indeed, without the assistance of postman, who happened to knock at the corner house, our artist might have doubted whether this very corner house, that had been pointed out to him by a butcher boy as Lord John Russell's, was really the scene where at that moment the interests of millions of people were at stake."

The Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord John Russell returned to town on Thursday morning from Windsor Castle. A meeting was held shortly afterwards at the noble Lord's residence, in Chesham-place, Belgrave-square. There were present, Lord John Russell, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Cottenham, Earl Grey, Earl of Clarendon, Earl of Auckland, Viscount Merton, Lord Monteagle, Sir John Hobhouse, Sir George Grey, the Right Hon. Edward Ellice, the Right Hon. Thomas B. Macaulay, the Right Hon. Francis

T. Baring, and the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere. The meeting broke up at a quarter past two o'clock.

After the meeting, Lord John Russell left his residence in Chesham-place for Windsor Castle, to have an audience of her Majesty. The noble Lord returned to town in the evening.

The purpose of the noble Lord's visit to Windsor was to submit to her Majesty a list of an Administration proposed by himself.

THE LATE MINISTRY OF SIR R. PEEL.

We believe that when an explanation takes place in Parliament as to the causes of the resignation of Sir R. Peel, the following division in the Cabinet for and against him, will prove, in every particular, correct.

There were for Sir Robert Peel, in support of his views, including the right honourable baronet himself:

The Earl of Aberdeen.
The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert.
In opposition to those views—
The Duke of Wellington.
Lord Stanley.
The Duke of Buccleuch.
Lord Wharncliffe.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (the Right Honourable Henry Goulburn). As regards Lord Lyndhurst, we can state that the noble and learned lord contemplated, previous to the meeting of Parliament, to relinquish the high functions of Lord Chancellor, owing to the uncertainty of his health.

The Earl of Lincoln, and
Sir James Graham.

The Earl of Ripon.
The Earl of Haddington.
The Lord Chancellor (Lord Lyndhurst).
Lord Granville Somerset.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

It may be well supposed that the news of the resignation of the Peel Ministry excited immense sensation in Paris. In that capital, however, the formation of a new Cabinet was considered a matter of much more easy accomplishment than it was found to be in London. For instance, the *Débats* of Monday last treated the matter as settled, little imagining that, even on Thursday, nothing would be known about the new Ministry in London.

When the resignation was known on 'Change, the Three per Cents fell nearly 2, and there was a general fall in the prices of railroad shares.

The *National* asserts that the "crisis" has caused much pain in the highest quarter, as with Lord Palmerston in the Foreign Office, the *entente cordiale* could no longer exist. This journal pretends to know that a courier has been sent to England with despatches, the object of which is a remonstrance against the appointment of a nobleman known to be the personal enemy of the King. All this may be, and most likely is, a fable; but it is valuable to the extent of showing how strong is the general conviction in Paris that the Whigs in power will be the signal for a return to that dangerous "isolation" which Lord Palmerston and M. Thiers contrived to create, and to which Lord Aberdeen and M. Guizot put an end.

Considerable uneasiness continued to be felt in Paris respecting the contest probable for the Creil and St. Quentin Railroad line. The *National* states that a most respectable and universally esteemed gentleman connected with the Strasbourg and Basle Railroad line had committed suicide. The unhappy person is M. Gabriel Isot, brother of the *Agent de Change* whose failure caused, a fortnight since, so much confusion and regret. It appears that he shot himself with a fowling-piece at his country-house at Grenelle on Thursday morning (last week).

The news from Algiers, given in these papers, is to the 6th inst. It is stated that Marshal Bugeaud had penetrated into the territory of the Flittas, and had made an extensive razzia, taking 500 Arab prisoners, and capturing an enormous quantity of cattle. Bou Maza, who had retired from the Dahra upon the approach of the French columns, had produced fresh trou les in the subdivision of Orleansville, but the column of Lieutenant-Colonel St. Arnaud had entered and re-established the communications between Tenzet and that point. That officer had attacked a large body of Arabs in the Medjajis territory, had killed a great number of men, and completely despoiled the two insurgent tribes, Ouled-Faren and Hamiss. Great agitation was said to prevail in the Ouarensenit, where a new Scherif, called Haf-Rassou, had excited the Beni-Boudouan to revolt. The aspect of affairs was looking something better, but was still far from being satisfactory.

THE UNITED STATES.

The *Britannia* has arrived, with New York papers of the 1st inst. She sailed from Boston on the 2nd, and Halifax on the 4th. The New York papers are deficient of actual news, but it appears that the excitement in the United States on the Oregon question has increased. The Government organ, the *Washington Union*, has a remarkable article upon the subject, from which it seems clear that it is the determination of Mr. Polk to claim the whole of the territory in dispute. The *Washington* organ adopts with pride and exultation the resolution passed at the Baltimore Convention:

"That our title to the whole of Oregon is clear and unquestionable—that no portion of the same ought to be ceded to England or any other Power—and that the re-occupation of Oregon, and the re-annexation of Texas at the earliest practicable period, are great American measures which this Convention recommends to the cordial support of the democracy of the Union."

It then reiterates the language held by the President in his first official communication to Congress, "that the American right to Oregon is clear and unquestionable."

The President's message was to be delivered on the 1st inst.; Congress assembling for the dispatch of business on that day. This important document will no doubt be brought to Liverpool by the packet-ship *Ashburton*, which was to sail from New York on the 6th inst.

Lord Metcalfe, Governor General of Canada, has returned a passenger in the *Britannia*. A Canada paper says, "The noble lord comes home with a view to obtain the best medical aid. He has left the seat of his government with the fervent good wishes and sympathy of all the loyal and right-thinking inhabitants of Canada, and leaves behind him a feeling of profound regret for his loss; and his departure will be attended, on the part of the inhabitants of this city, by such testimonials of their respect as harmonise with the painful occasion of his retirement, and with the obvious wish on the part of the illustrious sufferer to escape the fatigue and excitement of public leave-taking."

COMMERCIAL NEWS.—The latest accounts from New York say—"Our money market continues easy. Stocks are all high—indicating, so far as that may be relied on, the conviction of monied men that peace will be preserved."

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTAL OF AN INSOLVENT FOR TWENTY-TWO MONTHS.—At the IN-SOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT, on Wednesday, Mr. Commissioner Law gave judgment in the strange case of William Davies. The insolvent had figured as an attorney's clerk and potato-salesman. Subsequently he became a house agent and an accountant, at Hoxton, where he lately resided. His debts were under £500, and he told a marvellous tale of losing, by robbery, a sum of £200.—The insolvent was sworn to the truth of his schedule.—In giving judgment, the learned Commissioner observed that he disbelieved the story of the loss, and he also disbelieved that the insolvent had possessed the sum he had mentioned (£200), nor would he presume to form an opinion as to how much he actually possessed. That he was a person pretty well to do in the world was plain, for he had owned a number of houses, which he had sold after he found the action went against him. The judgment of the Court was that he be imprisoned for a period of twenty-two calendar months from the vesting order, for making away with and concealing his property. —The judgment will be computed from the 11th of October last.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The December Session commenced on Monday.

CONVICTION OF SAMUEL QUENNELL FOR THE MURDER AT NEWINGTON.

Samuel Quennell was on Thursday tried for the murder of Daniel Fitzgerald. The facts proved in evidence were so similar to those already known, and they were so recently published, that it is unnecessary to give a report of the trial. Mr. Clarkson, for the prisoner, cross-examined William Quennell, with a view to elicit from him that his brother was insane.—The witness stated that some members of the family had been subject to occasional fits of insanity, and that the prisoner's manner was sometimes "strange and wild"; but nothing more specific was elicited from him.—Lord Chief Justice Tindal summed up the evidence, and the Jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of "Guilty." His Lordship then, in the usual form and words, pronounced the sentence of death, telling the prisoner that there was not the slightest hope of mercy for him in this world.

A GIRL CONVICTED OF MURDER.

On Wednesday, Martha Browning, 23, spinster, was indicted for the wilful murder of Elizabeth Mundell, by strangling and suffocating her.

Mr. Bodkin and Mr. Clark prosecuted; Mr. Clarkson appeared for the defence.

We have already given an account of the circumstances, and the following evidence will render the case complete:—

Mrs. Ann Gaize, examined by Mr. Clark: I am the daughter of the deceased Mrs. Mundell, and reside in Rochester-row, Westminster. I know the prisoner. She had been lodging with my mother shortly before her death. She had been there about three weeks, and lived in the same room, and slept with my mother at her lodgings, in Providence place, Brewer's-green, Westminster. On Monday, the 1st of December, the prisoner came to my house about a quarter to eight o'clock in the morning, and she told me my mother was very ill, and had had a fit about seven o'clock, and she wished me to go and see her directly. She also told me that my mother had called out "Murder, murder. What are you doing to me?" and she said that the person in the next room had knocked at their door. I asked her why she did not let her in, and she said she was holding my mother's hands at the time. When I got to my mother's, I looked towards the bed, but could not see my mother at first, but I afterwards saw her lying upon her back, with her head resting on a box, and in her night clothes. She had a cord round her neck as thick as my little finger, and it was twisted twice round, and quite tight, and she was quite dead. I called out for assistance, and a baker's boy came into the room, and cut the string, and I then went for a surgeon, who sent his assistant immediately. A Coroner's inquest was held upon the body of my mother that same night, and the prisoner was the first witness examined, and, after the inquiry had terminated, the prisoner went back to my mother's house with me, and upon my husband saying that he had seen something which he did not like, the prisoner made an observation that created my suspicion. The prisoner appeared desirous not to lose sight of me from the Monday until the time when she was taken into custody. On the Tuesday I accompanied the prisoner to Bedford-street, Covent garden, to get £15, which sum she said she had saved in service, and she proposed to lend me a sovereign when she received it. When we got to the corner of Bedford-street, the prisoner asked me to wait for her, and after she had gone about ten minutes she came back, and said she had only got a £5 note, and if I could do without, she would not change it until the next morning. She also said that her late master had advised her to place her money in the hands of the person in Bedford-street. On the following Wednesday morning the prisoner was in the room with the deceased, and she viewed the body and said to me, "Oh, do you think she is happy?" We went out, and my husband asked me if I had any money. I said I had not, and at the same time told the prisoner she had got a £5 note, and asked her to change it. My husband offered to go for her, but she would not let him, and I saw her go

into the Blue Coat Boy public-house, and when she came out she said "they" had played a trick upon her, and had given her a Bank of Elegance note instead of one of the Bank of England.

By Mr. Justice Patteson: By the word "they," I understood the prisoner to refer to the person in Bedford-street.

Examination continued.—My husband then wished to look at the note, and the prisoner hesitated. I said, "On, Martha, let us look," and the prisoner then gave the note to him, and the moment he looked at it he called me on one side and showed it me, and then returned the note to the prisoner, but he soon afterwards got it from her a second time, and then told the prisoner that he must know where she got the note from, for his mother had had two of them. The prisoner replied with surprise, "She had, Mr. Gaize!" After this my husband returned the note a second time to the prisoner, but before he did so I had an opportunity of seeing it, and I recognised it as one that had belonged to my mother, by two grease spots on the back of it. When we got home I asked the prisoner to let me look at the note again, and she hesitated very much, but gave it me at last, and while I was examining it she made a snatch at it, but I folded it up, and said I should give it to my husband. When the prisoner tried to snatch the note, I told her I should not let her have it until I knew where it came from, and the prisoner then went out. My mother used to keep this note in a housewife in her pocket, and I know that she had another note of the same description. The note (produced) I have no doubt is the same note that was formerly in the possession of my mother.

The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Clarkson for the prisoner, but nothing of consequence was elicited.

Mary Fitkins stated that on something being said about holding a second inquest, the prisoner considered that it would be a very great trial for her, for so many different things came across her mind. Witness told her she was very wrong in not opening the door when Mrs. Cheshire knocked, and she said she was so excited at the time, for she had Mrs. Mundell down on the ground in a fit, and she was washing her face with water. After the prisoner was in custody, she also said to witness, "What will my mother think of me, a murderer, tydie on the gallows?" and she asked her several times to pray for her guilty soul; she also added, that it was the first robbery she had ever committed, but she "did deprive that poor soul of her mother." The prisoner likewise said, "What will my Jem think of me, a murderer, to die on the gallows?"

Harriet Smith confirmed the testimony of the last witness; and said that at five o'clock on the Tuesday morning she heard the prisoner heave a deep sigh, and say, "Oh dear, what are we when we are alone! We are worse than beasts." On the Wednesday the prisoner attempted to leave the house, but she prevented her, and after this she and Mr. Gaize went away together, for the purpose of proceeding to the place in Bedford-street where the prisoner said she had obtained the note.

Matthew Little proved that, on the morning of the death of the deceased, the prisoner came into his mother's shop, and said, "Oh, for God's sake, come with me! A woman has hung herself." He accompanied her to the residence of the deceased, and cut the cord from her neck.

Inspector Partridge deposed that when the prisoner was brought to the police station, and the charge of murder was entered upon the police sheet, he read over to her what he had written, and she replied, "It is all right—it is all right—I am an unfortunate creature, and you may do what you like with me." He afterwards searched the prisoner's box, and found in it a piece of cord similar to that which was round the neck of deceased.

By Mr. Baron Alderson.—The box was open, and the deceased could have obtained access to it as well as the prisoner.

The statement made by the prisoner before the Coroner was then read. Her account of the transaction was that the deceased had been very uneasy during the night, and that she had a fit, and called out "Murder!" and that on the morning she (the prisoner) went to her daughter to tell her of the state her mother was in, and when she returned she found her dead, in the position in which she was seen by the Coroner's Jury.

Mr. Atkinson, a surgeon, deposed that he had known the deceased for two years, and had opportunities of frequently seeing her while attending her husband during his lifetime, and he considered her a healthy woman. He was sent for to see the deceased on the morning of the 1st of December, and he found her quite dead. Her face was livid, the eyes wide open and staring, and there was blood issuing from the nose and mouth. Upon examining the neck he observed the marks of a cord passing round it, which had left discoloured marks, and it appeared to him that a cord had been passed twice round the neck, and then pulled forcibly behind, so as to cause strangulation, and he expressed a confident opinion that it was impossible for the deceased to have inflicted the injury upon herself. The witness likewise stated that, in his opinion, if the deceased had hung herself, there would have been different appearances presented.

By Mr. Clarkson: Witness was not examined before the Coroner, and he did not tender his testimony.

Mr. Clarkson having addressed the Jury for the prisoner, Mr. Justice Patterson summed up the evidence.

The Jury, after considering a short time, expressed their wish to retire. They were absent five-and-twenty minutes, when they entered the court with a verdict of "Guilty."

Mr. Harker, the Usher of the Court, then made the usual proclamation for silence, and the Learned Judges having put on their black caps, Mr. Justice Patterson proceeded to pass sentence of death upon the prisoner.

The prisoner was then asked formally, whether she had anything to urge in arrest of judgment. She said, "I am not guilty."

As it appeared there was no ground for an arrest of judgment, the sentence was recorded, and the prisoner was removed from the bar.

POLICE.

THE ALLEGED MURDERS ON BOARD THE SHIP "TORY."

FIFTH EXAMINATION OF CAPTAIN JOHNSTONE.—On Tuesday George Johnstone, late master of the *Tory* from Hong Kong, was again brought before Mr. Broderip, at the THAMES Police-court, charged with the wilful murder of William Rambert, William Mars, and Thomas Reason, on the high seas, within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England.

The proceedings related to occurrences which took place in the British Channel. The witnesses (with one exception) who appeared to charge the prisoner with wounding, cutting, and maiming, exhibited scars and wounds, and the faces of several were disfigured by repeated discharges of gunpowder.

Thomas Gair, seaman, was first sworn and examined. He deposed: I was put in irons on the 1st of November, previous to making land, on a false charge of threatening to take away the life of French, one of the crew. I believe it was made up between the captain and French. I was in irons eleven days. On the 7th of November the captain sent for me into the cabin. He sent Julian Cordivallo for me. Upon entering the cabin, I found Andrew Nelson and Burton there. The captain ordered me upon my knees directly I entered the cabin, and then commenced cutting at me with his cutlass. He ordered the man French to load his pistols and fire at me, and to put a double charge of balls in the pistols. The man put no balls in, but he fired at my face and head several times with charges of powder. The captain said if he did not load and fire as quick as possible he would take his life. After that the captain cut me several times on the head. He said he would run me through. He was intoxicated and staggered, and the sword made a slip and went through my clothes, inflicting only a slight wound on the side. He then took the cutlass and hove it at me. It went through my clothes and entered my shoulder. He then took the cutlass in his hand and ordered French to fire at me again, but he did not do it that time. He then ordered me on the table, and when I got upon it he shoved me off with the point of the cutlass. Shortly after that the carpenter called out to pump the ship. I went upon deck and assisted in manning the pumps.

Mr. Symons: How many cuts did you receive?—Witness: I received eighteen cuts on my head and face, and two stabs in my left shoulder, two in my left breast, two in my left side, one in my left thigh, and one in my right arm. I had several more cuts in different parts of my arm.

Joseph Morris, seaman, who has been on board the *Dreadnought* hospital ship since the arrival of the *Tory*, was now brought from that place for the first time. On being desired to state all that he knew after the ship had arrived in the Channel, he said he was a Frenchman. The witness began to speak in English, but expressed himself so imperfectly that Mr. Beyerman, an interpreter, was sworn to translate his evidence. He deposed as follows: The day the pilot came on board I was called down into the cabin, and the captain asked me if I had heard the crew say anything about him forward. I was upon my knees. He said to me, "You know all about it."

Mr. Symons: Ask him how he came to be on his knees?—Witness: He said to me, "Go upon your knees." At the same time the captain was striking with the cutlass, and here is the mark [the Frenchman pointed to a scar on his temple].

Mr. Broderip: With the flat or the edge of the sword?—Witness: With the edge of the sword. He then called the cabin boy, and ordered him to bring a loaded pistol. He aimed at my stomach, but the pistol missed fire by burning the priming only. He then called the boy to bring him more powder, to prime afresh; he then fired, turning his head aside from me, and dropping his hand rather. The ball went through my thigh and through my leg, as I was upon my knees. I then ran upon deck as soon as I was wounded. The cook then caught me, and brought me down again. When the cook took me below, he said, "This man is wounded." The captain answered, "Take him away." I went them upon deck, and stowed myself away under the long boat, under some sails.

Mr. Broderip: What is the witness's real name?—Mr. Beyerman: Joseph Ruelou. Barry Yelverton, an apprentice, was called, and told to confine himself to what occurred in the English Channel. He said, the day the pilot came on board, the captain was speaking to me and French about the men being cut so, and said, "Now, boys, we will send them all at, and swear a mutiny against them." The night before that he took me into the cabin and took a strand, tore the shirt off my back, and leathered me for an hour or two. The next morning my eyes were black, and my neck all swelled, and he said to me, "Yelverton, I am sorry for what I have done to you: it's a wonder I did not kill you." He then asked me if I recollect the way I addressed him the day before. I said, "Yes, sir, you was threatening to kill all hands yesterday; for God's sake don't kill any more." The man French said, "Yes, Captain Johnstone, you can kill all hands if you like." French added, "Never mind this fellow, the moon affects him." I replied, "The

moon has nothing to do with that. I speak for a man's good; I don't urge him on." The observation relating to the moon was made in reference to me. The witness then returned to the day the pilot came on board, when the captain said, "I wonder I did not kill you." I said, "There is no harm done," and I went upon deck again. Shortly after the pilot came on board. All things went on well until the latter part of the evening. He sent the cook for the crew to come aft. I was in my berth at the time it was proposed.

Mr. Symons: Who proposed it?—explain yourself.—Yelverton: The captain said, "go you into your berth, and when the crew come into the cabin, you enter, and say, 'see how they have abused me.'" He also directed me to say that they had him lashed to the mizen mast with a rope round his neck, so that it would show they were determined to do something when they approached the cabin. When the crew came aft, I got up and went into the larboard after cabin. They were firing away with pistols.

Mr. Symons: Who was firing?—Yelverton: The captain and French. Sometimes the captain fired, sometimes French.

Mr. Symons: In what state were the crew?—Yelverton: They were all quite sober. Sometimes they were standing and sometimes kneeling, as the captain ordered them. When I went into the cabin, I saw French and the captain shoot at Nelson and Gair, and cut them a good deal with a cutlass, but French cut the most at that time, more severe than the captain. Well, sir, I was in the cabin when Morris, the Frenchman, was shot. The men were called down a good many times that night. There was a good deal of confusion. The man Lee was standing alongside of Morris when he was shot.

Mr. Symons: In what state was the captain?—Yelverton: He was intoxicated, I think. The pistol missed fire the first time. He was standing in a position with his arm extended towards Morris, and his head turned aside. The second time he cocked the pistol and it went off. The candle went out at the time, and he called a boy to get him another light. When the light came in Morris was gone out of the cabin. How he got out I can't say. There was a good deal of cutting and hacking after that. A good many hands were sent down that night. The captain and French were cutting and hacking at them. The captain told me to take a pistol and shoot at the men.

Witnesses were then called who stated that the prisoner had cut David Johnson and Robert Thompson with a cutlass, and confirmed the statements of the Frenchman.

Mr. Symons then read over the whole of the depositions to the witnesses, and they signed them. On the Wednesday the prisoner attempted to leave the house, but she prevented her, and after this she and Mr. Gaize went away together, for the purpose of proceeding to the place in Bedford-street where the prisoner said she had obtained the note.

The prisoner was then again remanded till Tuesday next, when the case will probably be completed; but it will not be possible for the trial to take place during the present session of the Central Criminal Court.

BRIGHTON POLICE.—Two ladies applied for advice to the magistrate at the Brighton Police-office, on Tuesday, under the following circumstances. It appeared that one of the ladies had taken an aqua marine stone to a jeweller, in order that it might be set in two rings. The rings were brought home, and the sum of twenty-four shillings was charged for them. It was, however, subsequently discovered that the rings had been mounted with common glass, and that the value of both of them was not more than half a crown. The ladies, therefore, naturally demanded that the money should be returned. This, however, the jeweller refused to do. The magistrate sent for the jeweller in question, Mr. William Cochrane, of King's-road, Brighton. He accordingly attended, but although he admitted that it was not the same stone which had been given to him, he refused to refund the money, and said the same thing was always done in Brighton. The magistrate asked some questions, and among others, whether the shop was a gaudy one, to which a reply was given in the affirmative. He then stated to the applicants that the case was not one which came under the criminal code, and therefore that he could not afford them any redress. He added that his lady had been served in the same way.

THE LATE

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—“W. U.”—We are not acquainted with the game.
“J. G.” Goswell-street.—The solution of Mr. Bolton’s beautiful three-move problem, so long the ornament of the wrapper on each Number of “The Chess-Player’s Chronicle,” was sent as you requested.
“J. E. C.”—Some remarkably skilful positions by M. Horwitz are under consideration, and will appear shortly. The problem you send, by Dal-Rio, is eminently beautiful. As it is probably new to many of our readers, we will give them the benefit of it. White: K at his R square, Q at her 4th. R at Q square, Kt at Q R 5th, Pawns at K R 2nd and Kt 2nd. Black: K at Q Kt square, Q at K B 4th, R at K R 5th, B at Q Kt 2nd, Pawns at K B 5th, Q Kt 3rd, and Q R 2nd. White to play first, and mate in four moves.
“J. B. P.”—We must crave a little time for the examination of new problems; we have more on hand now than we can go through in a month.
“O. Y. Z.”—The stipulation, “without moving the Rook,” is very objectionable.
“R. M.”—Get Mr. Lewis’s “First Series of Chess Lessons.” The other works you mention are dear at any price.
“Automaton.”—Our very limited space prevents the insertion of your interesting version of the Knight’s march over the Exchequer.

“M. K.” Taunton.—The position you send as a novelty has been published for months on the cover of “The Chess-Player’s Chronicle,” and is known to every player as the Indian Problem.
“J. E. C.” Park-street.—We see no mate in six moves in Problem 98.
“Y.”—Your notable suggestion would lead to mate in three, instead of five moves. We can assure you every possible variation was examined; it is, therefore, quite unnecessary to send us any further emendations.
“A. J. M.”—The last strikes us as very inferior to the previous one, which, although an obvious imitation of the Indian Problem, was not uninteresting.
“W. C.”—A player may have two or more Queens on the board at the same time.
“A. M.” “W. T.” and “V. W. X.”—Vol. VI. of “The Chess-Player’s Chronicle” may now be had, complete, of the publisher, 13, Carey-street.
“J. J. S.” Oxford.—Your solution of No. 97 is wrong. As we have before said, mate cannot be given in less than five moves. The variation you propose on Black’s first move, of K B 1st, would only accelerate the mate, because White would immediately play R to Q 5th.
“Pax.”—The suggested move will not defer checkmate.
“Massello.”—See the notice about “J. J. S.”

“Thela.”—We have not seen a reprint of the amusing pamphlet, “Observations on a New Treatise of Chess.” It certainly deserves a more extended circulation.
“F. G. W.” Ries’ Divan.—M. Kuiper’s entertaining Collection of Problems can be got of Hastings, in Carey-street.
“A Subscriber.”—The problem forwarded is the celebrated Indian one. Its solution is—1. Q to his square, Black plays his Pawn; 2. K to Kt square, Black again moves a Pawn; 3. R to Q 2nd, and, when the King is moved, R to Q 4th, double check and mate.
Communications by “C. S.” Brighton; “A. Z.” Tottemham; “H. P.” “G. S.” “T. W.” “H. W.” “St. P.” “King’s Pawn.” “R. R.” “Tyro.” “T. H. G.” “F. H. F.” and “X. T.” are under consideration.
We have a pile of correspondence which came too late for examination this week, but which shall be replied to in our next Number.

Solutions by “Maran.” “J. C.” Marazion; “F. F. de Z.” “A German.” “A Tyro.” “E. C. T.” Whitewell; “J. R.” Penzance; “P. W.” “J. B. P.” “Park Hill.” “Automaton.” “Alpha.” “B. W.” “H. W. G.” “G. P.” “W. P.” “E. W.” “M. D.” “R. S. W.” “W. J.” “The Captain.” “J. E. C.” “P. P. F.” “H. P.” “R. T.” and “J. B.” are correct. Those by “P. S.” and “R. M.” are wrong.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM, No. 99.

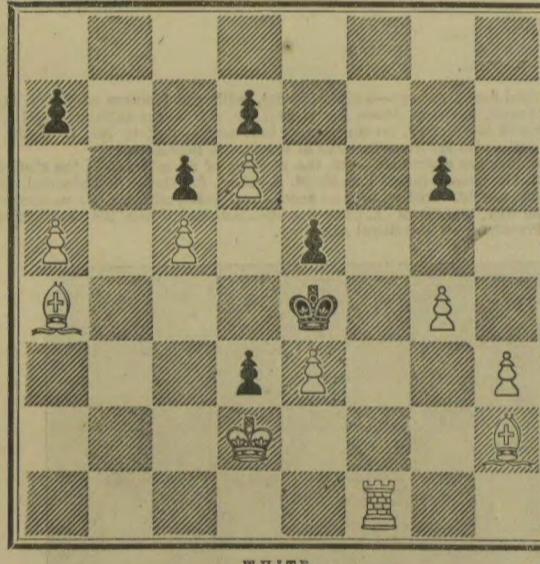
WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to Q R’s 4th K to B’s 4th or K 5th
2. B to Q B’s 2nd (ch) K to his 4th
3. K to Q’s 3rd K to B’s 4th
4. K to Q’s 4th—discovering ch and mate

PROBLEM, No. 100.

By P. M. R.

White moving first, to mate in four moves.

BLACK.



NATIONAL SPORTS.

Sometimes I hunt the fox, the vowed foe
Unto my lambs, and him dislodge away;
Sometimes the fawn I practise from the doe,
Or from the goat her kidde how to convey.
Another while I baytes and nets display:
The birds to catch, the fishes to beguyle:
And when I wearie am, I down do lay
My limbes in every shade, to rest from toyle,
And drinke of every brooke when thrist my throte doth boyle.
—Faery Queen.

Although, as recited in our last week’s article on this subject, practical sporting, as regards the million, is just now in pretty general abeyance, theoretical sporting, as concerns the million, is in very spirited operation; indeed, the matter was probably never so energetically agitated. Whether it be sympathy or some other mysterious working of nature that hath brought it to pass, certain it is that the Corn question is now both politically and socially before the public in an attitude to command attention, whatever its deserts. Leaving it in the former relation, to be dealt with by the combined wisdom of the nation, we take the liberty of investigating its claim in the latter respect, inasmuch as, whatever may be urged against the Legislative treatment of the Corn-laws, the annals of Parliament afford no parallel of a pressing case of impolicy being suffered to remain in such a predicament as the existing state of our Game-laws. The practice of preserving beasts and birds of game had, no doubt, obtained before the days in which Spenser wrote; but the rural privilege, as then enjoyed in reference to field sports, was in spirit that which, in the above stanza, he draws obviously from a familiar subject.

The time has come—the occasion is even after date—in which our code of Game-laws should be revised. It was never meant to bring about the plague of hares and pheasants by which many of our counties are now overrun; it was never designed to be the agent of the unsporting system now carried to an English excess in many of our great shooting districts. Last year a pamphlet in defence of the Game-laws was published by Mr. Grantley Berkeley, a Member of Parliament, and well known, by his contributions to the sporting periodicals, as the uncompromising champion of aristocratical monopoly in the *ferae naturae*. This begat replies and rejoinders, all as wide of the mark as the declaration of a senator opposed to the passing of a Bill to legalise the sale of game, that a year after it became the law a hare would be as scarce an animal in Great Britain as a wolf. How stands the fact? During the past season hares had so multiplied that many Lords of Manors had to call in the aid of the yeomanry to put them down—or to reckon on cultivating their own wastes! We throw out of the present treatment of this question all consideration of the moral evil brought about by the existing system of preserving; we divest ourselves of the argument against it which its premium for poaching affords; we repudiate all the advantages which the unpoular sophisms, and the popular fallacies of Mr. Berkeley and Mr. Bright would help us to—and simply seek to place it before that tribunal, which certainly is the fittest to deal with it—English sportsmen of the good old English school.

A few days since, a leading journal published a letter from an officer of rank, residing in the neighbourhood of Windsor, setting the case of game preserving in a very strong point of view generally, and winding up his denunciation of the system with this startling assertion:—“The carnage (by shooting) about here is not less than elsewhere. After about two hours’ firing, the game and rabbits being hemmed in by keepers, to prevent escape, my information leads me to believe the amount of the slain generally exceeds two hundred, some of which are sold at Egham, fattened by my neighbours. My contribution towards it—I mean this in the most literal sense of the words, and shortly meant to prove it, by the oaths of competent witnesses—amounts this year to the entire rental of my estate!!! If we believe this deliberate assertion of Captain Forbes—and how can

we doubt it? does it not establish a case calling aloud for the repeal of a law, which, even in one solitary instance, could be made the instrument of such injustice as this? We are the earnest, uncompromising advocates of the National Sports of this country, because we are convinced they act beneficially on the popular tastes and resources. We are for the like reason opposed to that new fancy of woodcraft known as the *battue*. It is a foreign invention, and the sooner it is tabooed the better. When the Duke of Cambridge was Viceroy of Hanover, one of those exhibitions was got up, thus alluded to in “Blaine’s Encyclopaedia”:—“At the extremity of the enclosure a sort of pavilion was placed. None were allowed to use fire-arms but his Royal Highness the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria, and the Duke of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz: thirty-five victims fell in the first attack. I saw a bear running about the ground with his entrails hanging out, and one of the young Dukes of Brunswick thought it a proud exploit to place his spear in the very part where a mortal wound had been already inflicted. Sir Edward Nagle having laid four bears dead at his feet, exclaimed in the language of his profession as a tar, ‘—me see what I’ve done—I have stoned in the gun-rooms of four pigs, by —.’ Save the soliloquy, a recent scene of the sort at which we assisted, as the phrase is, presented similar features of attraction and humanity. On the ground of justice, the Game-laws must be revised. Fair sporting is served.”

“Haud tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis.”

Let them be modified so as no longer to be the tools of the *battue*ists. Come to the rescue, chivalry of the Commons House:

“Now’s the time and now’s the hour”—

let the coming session see expunged from the legislative code of Great Britain those relics of dark ages—a law refusing the peasant immunity to purchase corn, and a statute securing the pheasant impunity to steal it.

TATTERSALL’S.

MONDAY.—The sale of the late Earl Verulam’s stud attracted a better attendance than usual, and business, interrupted by occasional discussions on the Ministerial crisis, showed a slight improvement. Nor was it altogether destitute of interest, inasmuch as repeated and unsuccessful attempts to back Stingo at 15 to 2, proved that we were right in returning him at 7 to 1 last week, while a strong outlay on Fancy Boy, at 40 to 1, made him a more decided favourite, although without affecting the quotation, than he has yet been. The following was the price current at the close:—

CHESTER CUP (NAME OR NOT)		1000 to 1 agst Neroe (t)		1000 to 15 agst Hope (t)	
		1000 to 15 agst Morpeth (t)			
7 to 1 agst Sting		30 to 1 agst Malcolm (t)		40 to 1 agst Fancy Boy	
15 to 1 Brocardo		30 to 1 — Spithead (t)		40 to 1 — Hoora!	
30 to 1 Iago (t)		35 to 1 — The Traverser (t)		OAKS.	
		15 to 1 agst Varnish (t)		25 to 1 agst Mendicant (t)	

THURSDAY.—A few members looked in, but with so little disposition to speculate, that not a bet was laid.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE ELECTORS OF LONDON AND THE CORN-LAWS.

On Monday there was a numerous meeting of the electors of the City of London at the Guildhall, upon the subject of the Corn-laws.

At one o’clock the Lord Mayor entered the hall, and was followed by Mr. Cobden, who was greeted with loud cheering. Among the other gentlemen who occupied the platform we noticed the following:—James Pattison, Esq., M.P.; Raikes Currie, Esq., M.P.; Dr. Bowring, M.P.; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; William Williams, Esq., M.P.; T. Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; Arch. Hartie, Esq., M.P.; George Moffatt, Esq., M.P.; John Dillon, Esq.; R. Ricardo, Esq.; Alderman Sir John Key, Bart.; Alderman Wood; Mr. Sheriff Laurie; D. W. Harvey, Esq.; William Hawes, Esq.; C. Wordsworth, Esq., barrister; John Lock, Esq.; R. Taylor, Esq.; and W. H. Ashurst, Esq. The following letter was received from Lord John Russell:—

Chesham-place, Dec. 14.

My Lord Mayor.—As I understand that your Lordship is to preside at the meeting of the City of London to-morrow, on the subject of the Corn laws, I request you will have the goodness to state, that the peculiar circumstances of my position at this moment will prevent my attendance—I have the honour to be, your Lordship’s obedient servant,

JOHN RUSSELL.

The first speaker was Mr. Dillon, who urged the repeal of all laws which operated as a premium upon famine, and moved:—“That the principle of protection in commerce is unsound—false in theory and in practice; delusive to the classes who seek protection, and injurious to the community at large. That the great practical rule of leaving all commerce unfettered applies more peculiarly, and on still stronger grounds of justice as well as policy, to the trade in corn, and in all articles whatsoever which form the food of the people, than to any other trade.”

Mr. Wilkinson created much disapprobation and some derision by arguing that there was no deficiency of food. The resolution was agreed to, as was also one declaring that the principle of protection had failed in realising the advantages promised by its supporters.

Mr. Charles Perkins, brother to the brewer of that name, in proposing the next resolution, said, the Peel Administration were afraid to face the speech of the President of the United States, which would arrive in this country within the next ten days. The Western States of America had now a majority in the Congress, and they never would meet this country upon terms of amicable feeling and mutual interest until they had free access to the markets of this country. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. Hawes, in seconding the resolution, hoped the meeting would be content with nothing less than a total repeal of the Corn laws.

Mr. Cobden then came forward, and was received with prolonged shouts of applause. After complimenting the electors of London upon their power and influence, he said, “Who are the opponents with whom we have to do on this occasion? Who are the men to tell us, the inhabitants of London, and the vast multitudes of the populous north, that we should not be allowed to exchange the fruits of our industry for the food which is offered open-handed by every country on the globe? Who are they that will stand up in array against this magnificent meeting, and tell us that we must not do this? Oh, we must find them, forsooth, in Buckinghamshire and Essex. (Cheers and laughter.) Yes, in Essex they had a great Protectionist gathering, and they tell us that that which is to stem this mighty avalanche of opinion—this great movement—is to come from Chelmsford. (Laughter.) If there is plenty in the land, there is no use to go 3,000 miles to America for a supply; but if there is not plenty, then that system which prevents the people from receiving a supply must be an unrighteous system—a system abhorrent to every law human and divine. (Loud cheers.) Every law is bad, and to be condemned, that interferes to prevent a supply of food to the people of any country. (Cheers.) Now, gentlemen, with regard to the protective societies, of which we have heard so much. They tell us confidently that there is a sufficient supply of corn and potatoes in the country. If this is so, I wish to know what is the matter in head quarters. If there is no potato rot, what is that murrain which we have got in the Cabinet? (Cheers.) No, gentlemen, there are ominous signs in the sudden rupture of the Cabinet. (Hear, hear.) I believe it is based on some reports received respecting the crops in Ireland, and in many parts of England; reports informing Sir Robert that the evil is much worse than any intimation the public have yet received, that this sudden break up has taken place. I believe that, by next spring—and it is my duty to state it—there will not be a sound potato to be applied for the purposes of seed. (Hear, hear.) It is easy for our dukes and ‘quires, maunding like old women at agricultural meetings, to say there is no scarcity, and to attempt to arrest the opinion in favour of free trade. They can go out to shoot and hunt during the day, and when they come in they can regale themselves with venison, champagne, and the like dainties. With them there is no scarcity; not so with the people. (Hear, hear, hear.) Mr. Cobden concluded in these terms:—“Your struggle is against a large section of the landed aristocracy of the country, whose everlasting struggles are to keep you, the people of England, within the narrowest limits they possibly can for the exercise of your skill, and the reward of your industry. (Applause.) They wish rather to live great amongst a little and impoverished people, than to rise with the greatness and increased power of those who will rise higher still, if they will only allow claims to those beneath them. (Applause.) Your struggling is with the monopolising landowners of this country, who are but a handful of men. Confront them with the people of this country, and they are as but a cork upon the cataract of Niagara. Why there are men living now, old enough to remember how the thousands assembled round the Mansion House to sign the petition, not merely against the laying on of this tax, but to give time to consider what its effects might be upon the nation. Upwards of 40,000 names were put to that petition in one day. London was moved from its very centre to oppose this very law. We say, therefore, down with the very idea of compensation—down with the very idea of compromise—we go for the total, immediate, and unqualified repeal of the Corn-laws!” (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst thunder of applause.)

Other resolutions condemnatory of the Corn-laws were agreed to.

Dr. Bowring, in seconding one of them, said his friend Mr. Cobden had spoken of those who will probably be some of the new Ministers, but he (Dr. Bowring) believed public opinion would not be satisfied until a portfolio was in Mr. Cobden’s own hands. He should be President of the Board of Trade. (Applause.)

MEETING OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE AT COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.—The first meeting for the season of the Anti-Corn-Law League took place on Wednesday night at Covent Garden Theatre; and, as may be well imagined under present circumstances, it was a most numerous one. Great enthusiasm was manifested. The *Chronicle* says:—“From floor to roof the house was a living human pile, in which the fairer portion of creation held a large proportion; the open doors of the boxes giving vistas of anxious countenances, extending along the corridors, and an occasional murmur of distant struggling, evincing the fact that there were crowds content to take their chance of catching the voices of the speakers from the distant passages and staircases.” It was stated that applications had been made for 30,000 tickets of admission. The chair was taken by the Hon. C. Villiers, M.P., and the speakers were Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., and the Rev. Mr. Fox. Amongst other members of Parliament present were—Henry Mitcalfe, Esq., Howard Elphinstone, Esq., Benjamin Smith, Esq., Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., James Pattison, Esq., and Adam Smith, Esq. Altogether, the assembly formed a splendid manifestation against the Corn Laws.

A WEEK’S GOSSIP.

“He hath strange places cramm’d
With observation—the which he vents
In mingled fancies.”

SHAKESPEARE.

We might gossip at abundant length of Cabinets and rumours of Cabinets, but really just at the present hazy conjuncture, politics are anything but a safe ground for planting jokes. Nothing so absurd that invention can conceive, which may not be on the cards, a startling fact. Had we ventured a fortnight ago to predict that the strong Peel Government would have been scattered to the winds, and Lord John Russell buried in forming a Cabinet, the world would have looked for the cap and bells, and taken our predictions for an anticipation of some of the pantomime tricks and transformations. Yet all this has come about. Then the wildest fancy flights of ours could not surpass in extravagance the conjectures of our sober daily brethren; and altogether we feel that the changes and chances of Cabinets just at present, are better food for the red-tape gossipers of the Carlton and Reform Clubs, than for us, who have no place to lose nor pension to hope for.

We were present on Monday last at the Westminster Play. An account of it, with the Prologue and Epilogue in their classical garb, will be found elsewhere. As the Epilogue, however, is full of allusions to the day, and turns entirely on the Railway madness, we have thought we might be doing our lady readers some service (and we are grateful to say that we have lady readers), and save their unhappy brothers or husbands some trouble in construing, and a great many excuses for not construing,—by subjoining a translation of it. The task is not an easy one to render Latin Hexameters and Pentameters into corresponding English metres. But we have ventured upon the attempt, and present the results of our essay:—

EPILOGUE.

Enter DAVUS, with a “share list” in his hand.

DAVUS. Not a day passes but out comes a line! and the premiums still rising, Rising as fast as they can. (PAMPILUS crosses stage.)

PAMPILUS! as I’m a man!

PAM. Pray do you come from the city? From Capel Court? It’s surprising tho’ the Times makes a dead set, higher the prices still get.

ROYAL ACADEMY PRIZES.



SCULPTURE PRIZE.—“THE HOURS LEADING OUT THE HORSES OF THE SUN.”—BY MR. A. BROWN.

ing out the Horses of the Sun.” Basso-relievo—impost not to exceed 2 inches; the figures not to be less than 2 feet nor more than 3 feet high; the principal figure to measure not less than 2 feet in height. Awarded to Mr. A. Brown.

We have engraved these two Prizes, which are highly indicative of the advance of art among the Academy Students.

The remaining prizes were:—To Mr. A. Johnson, for the best architectural design for a National Record Office:—silver medals, with the lectures of Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, to Mr. T. Clark, for the best copy in oil; and to Mr.

W. Gale, for the best chalk drawing from the living model:—silver medal to Mr. G. A. Sintzenich, for the second best drawing; and to Mr. T. Clarke, for the third best drawing:—silver medals, with the lectures of Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, to Mr. A. Brown, for the best model from the life; and to Mr. W. Walters for the best architectural drawing of the Strand front of Somerset House:—a silver medal to Mr. S. C. Capes, for the second best drawing:—a silver medal, with the lectures of Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, to Mr. J. A. Vinter, for, for the best chalk drawing from the antique:—silver medals to Mr. G. B. O’Neil, for the second best drawing; and to Mr. W. Anderson, for

the third best drawing:—a silver medal, with the lectures of Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, to Mr. G. Moss, for the best model from the antique:—and silver medals to Mr. Kelsey, for the second best model; and to Mr. L. Wyon, for the best medal die from the head of the Apollo Belvidere.

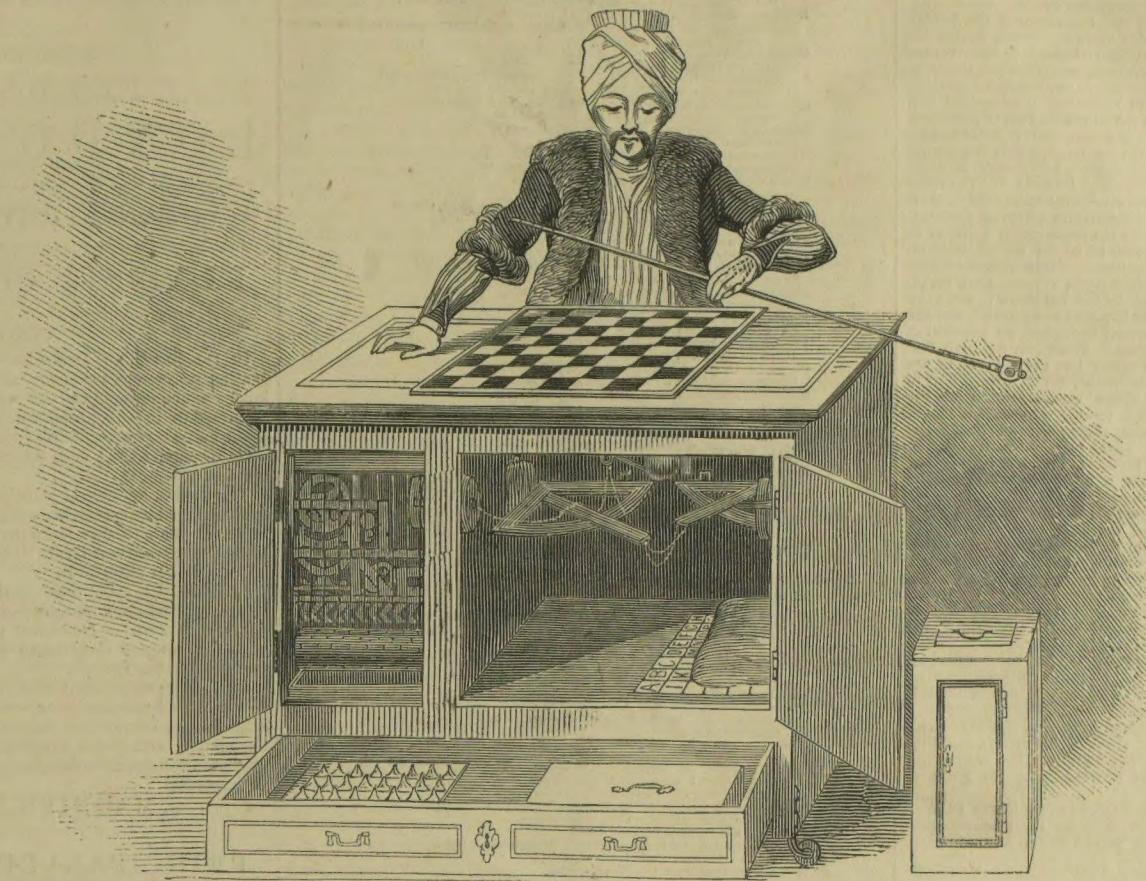
The meeting concluded with the reading of an address to the students, which had been composed by Sir M. A. Shee, for the former biennial meeting, but not delivered by him on account of indisposition. We understand, by the way, that Sir M. A. Shee has been induced to recall his resignation of the Presidency of the Royal Academy.



PAINTING PRIZE.—“FINDING THE BODY OF HAROLD.”—BY MR. J. C. HOOK.

THE AUTOMATON CHESS-PLAYER REDIVIVUS.

By an extract of a letter from a Correspondent in New York, we learn that, after years of oblivion and neglect, this marvellous piece of trickery, which so long excited the admiration of the scientific world at Vienna, Berlin, Paris, and London, has been dragged from its dusty obscurity, once more to delight and astonish the sight-seeing multitudes of the other hemisphere. Our communicant, indeed, speaks of the figure now exhibiting as of another wonder, the invention of a pianoforte maker of New York; but we have cogent reasons for believing that the long celebrated Automaton of Kempelin, and the Chess-playing Turk of the Broadway, are one and the same. Age may have dimmed the lustre of his eye, and weakened the thin, small voice which old astounded the gaping visitors with its feebly enunciated "check;" but there, in his ancient turbaned glory, with beard and calumet, and flowing robes—there, in unmistakable imperturbability, sits the Wizard who, for half a century, put at nought the penetration of the wisest heads in Europe. Since the revelations of M. Mouret, the celebrated Chess-player, whose skill directed the movements of the Automaton for years, a good deal has been written explanatory of the means by which this remarkable deception was carried on; but even now, except among people immediately interested in the game of Chess, very little is known upon the subject. Most persons, to be sure, have heard of "The Automaton Chess Player," and entertain a vague notion that it was in some measure conducted by human agency—a sort of "Jack in-the-Box;" but how this was effected—the wonderful ingenuity shown in the concealment of the player—the exquisitely delusive semblance of massive wheels and springs, and intricate mechanism, with which every nook and cranny of both chest and figure were apparently filled—and, above all, the originality of conception displayed in the device by which the imprisoned agent became acquainted with his opponent's moves during the progress of a game—are as much a mystery to the world at large,

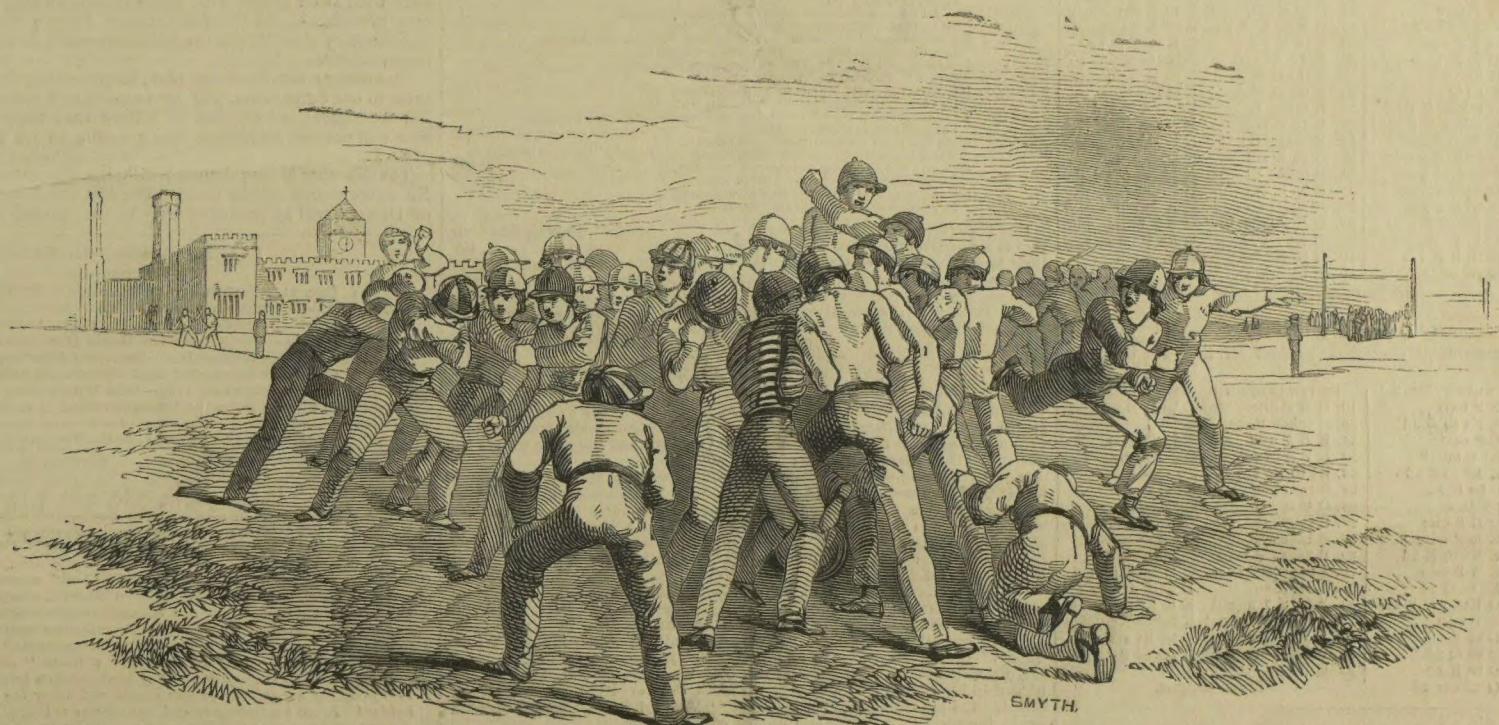


THE AUTOMATON CHESS PLAYER.

as ever—and we shall therefore take advantage of the present opportunity to say a few words on the subject.

The Automaton Chess Player was invented in the year 1759, by Wolfgang de Kempelin, a native of Hungary, Aulic Councillor to the Royal Chamber of the domains of the Emperor of Germany, and long distinguished for his skill in Mechanics. His object in constructing it appears to have been merely to afford a passing amusement to the Empress Maria Theresa and the Court; and there is much reason to believe that the exaggerated enthusiasm with which it was received, and the pompous announcements of its marvellous powers, afforded but little gratification to the inventor himself, who frequently spoke of it as an ingenious trifle, the chief merit of which consisted in the happy choice of means employed to hide the deception. In 1783, the Chess Automaton was publicly exhibited in Paris, and excited the surprise and admiration of all who saw it: from thence it was removed to London, where at the time Chess was extensively practised and patronised by the higher classes. It was subsequently taken by special invitation of the Emperor, to the Court of Frederick the Great, at Berlin; this Prince was devotedly attached to Chess, and in a moment of liberality he proffered an enormous sum for the purchase of the Automaton and its secret. The offer was accepted, and in a private interview with De Kempelin, he was furnished with a key to the mystery which had baffled the whole scientific world. In a short time, however, Frederick threw aside the novelty so dearly bought, and for many years it lay forgotten and neglected amidst the lumber of his Palace.

M. de Kempelin died in 1804, but in two years after, when Napoleon occupied Berlin, we find the Chess Automaton in the field again, under a new master. On one occasion of its exhibition at this period, Napoleon himself is said to have entered the lists. After some half-dozen moves he purposely made a false move, the figure inclined his head, replaced the piece, and made a sign for Napoleon to play again. Presently, he again played falsely; this time the Automa-



FOOT BALL AT RUGBY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

on removed the offending piece from the board, and played his own move. Napoleon was delighted, and to put the patience of his taciturn opponent to a severer test, he once more played incorrectly, upon which the Automaton raised his arm, and, sweeping the pieces from the board, declined to continue the game.

After a second tour of the leading cities in Europe, where it was received with unabated enthusiasm, in 1819 it was again established in London. Of its subsequent history but little is known. For some years it was exhibited in Canada and the United States, and was finally understood to have returned to New York, where it has remained ever since.

Of the appearance, and manner of exhibiting this remarkable figure, the reader will obtain a pretty intelligible idea from the cut prefixed, and the following brief description:—

Upon entering the apartment where it was exhibited, the Automaton, attired in handsome Turkish costume, was seen seated behind a chess-board, affixed to a chest, about three feet high, two feet deep, and four feet long. Both the figure and the wooden chair on which he sat were attached to the chest, and this being upon castors, the whole was moved with facility about the chamber. The exhibitor commenced operations, by showing the interior of the chest, which was divided by a partition into two unequal parts, both apparently so occupied by machinery, that the concealment of a human being appeared impossible. After opening the doors in front and behind, pulling out, at the same time, a long shallow drawer, at the bottom of the chest, containing a set of chess men, a cushion, and some counters, two lesser doors were also opened; and then, in order to make the exposure of the inside complete, lights were shown at the back openings, enabling the spectators to see right through the interior. The machine was then turned round, and lights were again exhibited at the different openings, in such a way that every corner seemed visible. At

the same time, the Automaton's robe was turned over his head, so as to display the internal structure, which was seen to be full of wheels, cylinders, and other clock-work; and, in this exposed state, the whole apparatus was wheeled round, for the inspection of the visitors. After allowing sufficient time for examination, the exhibitor closed all the doors, removed the machine behind a balustrade, and invited any one who chose to play a game of chess.

As soon as an antagonist appeared, the eyes of the figure were apparently directed to the board, and, after some moments of seeming meditation, it began the battle. First, leisurely raising its arm from the cushion on which it rested, the hand was directed towards the piece to be played; the fingers then opened, took hold of the piece, and deposited it on the proper square; while, during the operation, a noise of wheel-work was heard, which ceased only when the Automaton's arm had returned to rest again on the cushion. Many attempts, like that just related of Napoleon, to disconcert it, by playing falsely, were made for fun by visitors, but always without success; for, upon the least infringement of the established rules of the game, the Automaton, after tapping upon the chest, with an air of offended dignity, would replace the erring piece, and then proceed to take advantage of the illegal move, by playing one of his own men.

Upon the termination of every game, the doors were again unclosed, and the whole machine subjected to a second inspection by the persons present.

It is certainly difficult, in the face of this gratuitous display of the whole internal structure of the machine, to conceive the possibility of a concealed confederate, and yet, such is the simple and unscientific solution of this celebrated mystery. The chess-player who directed the movements of the Automaton was really hidden in the interior; and all that mass of finely-executed clock-work, wheels, and springs, and cylinders, so ostentatiously



WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.—SCENE FROM "THE ANDRIA" OF TERENCE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

exhibited to the admiring world, was merely a sham, substantial enough in appearance to fill up every portion of both chest and figure; but so contrived that it would collapse or expand to suit the exigencies of the hidden agent's various positions while the inside was shown. Thus, during the exhibition of one portion of the machinery, he was enabled to take refuge in another, sometimes in the body of the automaton, and at others in a portion of the chest. These changes were of course in obedience to preconcerted arrangement, and a few repetitions were sufficient to accustom him to the routine. While conducting a game, he sat at the bottom of the chest, with a small pegged chess-board and men on his lap, and a lighted taper affixed: within reach we saw a candle by which he could guide the arm of the Automaton, an elastic spring for moving its fingers, and a cord in communication with bellows for producing the sound of "Check." The most ingenious and interesting part of the contrivance remains to be told. Most scientific men concurred in attributing the phenomena of these performances to human agency; but even admitting the concealment of a player in the chest, the means by which he could be informed of the moves made on the Automaton's chess board, baffled all conjecture. Some supposed that he looked through the beard or waistcoat of the figure; others, that an intimation of every move was conveyed to him by the exhibitor; but upon reflection insuperable objections to both these theories were found, and the problem remained unsolved till M. Mouret himself furnished an account of all the mysteries connected with the Automaton. From him we learn that the concealed player was seated immediately under the chess board of the Automaton, and that the reverse of this chess board, which formed part of the ceiling of his narrow cell, was an exact representation of the chess-board above, but to the side presented to the imprisoned player at every one of the sixty-four squares was suspended, by the finest silk, a tiny metallic ball. Now, as the chess men with which the Automaton played above had each of them a magnet inside, the moment any one of them was placed upon a square it attracted the little ball attached to the corresponding square below and fixed it to the board, so that, by the time the exhibitor had arranged all the men on the board, thirty-two (the number of the pieces) of the balls beneath would be drawn up close to the under chess-board, while the other thirty-two would remain suspended. To illustrate this portion of the subject we will imagine the pieces duly arranged, and the game about to be opened by the Automaton. Looking up at the chess board on his little ceiling he sees by the thirty two balls drawn up that the men are properly placed on the board before the public, so, duly turning the handle which directs the arm of the figure, and putting in motion the springs by which its fingers act, he causes it to take up the piece intended to be played, and, watching the board on his ceiling at the same time, he observes, as the Automaton's fingers take up the piece, the corresponding ball to fall, as before described, and when this piece is placed on the destined square, he sees also the ball below it drawn up. Having completed his first move, and carefully repeated it on the small board in his lap, he sits anxiously awaiting the move of his opponent. Presently he sees one little ball fall and another rise; he makes the move thus indicated on his own board, and in this manner proceeds with the game to its conclusion.

This brief description of the once celebrated "AUTOMATON Chess Player" may not be unacceptable to the general reader, and for the amusement of Chess amateurs we append two games recently played by the Automaton in New York.

GAME NO. 1.

Played by the "Automaton," at a private exhibition of it at New York, against Mr. Stanley:—

WHITE (AUTON.)	BLACK (MR. S.)	WHITE (AUTON.)	BLACK (MR. S.)
1. K P two	K P two	21. Kt takes Q	B to K 5th
2. K P two	P takes P	22. R to B 2nd	Kt to Q 2nd
3. K Kt to B 3rd	K Kt P two	23. B to K B 4th	R to K B sq
4. K B to Q B 4th	Q P one	24. B to K 5th (ch)	K B 2nd
5. Q P two	K B to K 2nd	25. Q R to K B sq	R to K Kt sq
6. Q B B one	K B P one	26. B to R 4th	R to K B sq
7. Q to Kt 3rd	Q to K 2nd	27. B to Kt 3rd	R takes Kt
8. Kt takes Kt	Q takes Kt	28. R takes R	R to K B sq
9. B takes P (ch)	K to Q sq	29. K to Kt 2nd	R takes R
10. B takes Kt	Q takes K Kt P	30. R takes R	Kt to K B 3rd
11. R to K B sq	Q takes K P (ch)	31. K to B 2nd	B takes R
12. K to B 2nd	K B to B 3rd	32. K takes B	K to Q 2nd
13. Q to K B 7th	B to K R 5th (ch)	33. B to R 4th	K to K 3rd
14. K to Kt sq	P to K B 6th	34. B takes Kt	K takes B
15. R takes P	Q to K 8th (ch)	35. K to B 4th	Q P one
16. R to K B sq	B to K B 7th (ch)	36. R P two	K R P two
17. Q takes B	R takes B (ch)	37. Q R P two	R Q P two
18. K to R sq	Q to K 5th (ch)	38. Q Kt P one	Q Kt P two
19. Q to B 3rd	B to K B 4th	39. K to Kt 3rd	K to B 4th
20. Kt to Q 2nd	Q takes Q	40. K to B 3rd	

Drawn Game.

GAME NO. 2.

Played by the Automaton at New York, against Mr. Z., of the New York Chess Club.

WHITE (AUTON.)	BLACK (MR. Z.)	WHITE (AUTON.)	BLACK (MR. Z.)
1. K P two	K P two	19. Q B P one	B to K B 2d
2. K Kt to B 3d	K Kt to B 3d	20. B takes P	Q to B 2d
3. Kt takes P	Q P one	21. K R P one	K Kt P two
4. K Kt to B 3d	Kt takes P	22. R P takes P	P takes P
5. Q P one	K Kt to B 3d	23. Kt to Kt 4th	P takes P
6. B to K 2d	B to K 2d	24. B takes P	B takes B
7. Castles	Castles	25. Q takes B	Q takes Q
8. K Kt to B 3d	K B P one	26. R takes Q	Kt to R 4th
9. K R P one	K R P one	27. B takes Kt (ch)	K takes B
10. K Kt to R 2nd	K Kt to R 2d	28. R takes B (ch)	R takes R
11. K B P two	K B P two	29. Kt takes Kt	R Q to K B sq
12. B to K B 3d	Kt to Q 2d	30. R to K sq,	R to B 4th
13. Kt to K 2d	Q Kt to K B 3d	31. R to K 7th (ch)	K to Kt 3d
14. Kt to Kt 3d	Q P one	32. Kt to K 5th (ch)	K takes Kt
15. B to K R 5th	Q to B 2d	33. K Kt P two (ch)	K to Kt 4th
16. B to K 6th	B to Q 3d	34. P takes R	R takes P
17. Q to B 3d	B to K 3d	35. Q P one	
18. B to Q 2d	Q to her 2d		

Black resigns.

FOOT-BALL AT RUGBY.

This truly English game is played in perfection at the fine Elizabethan school, at Rugby, in Warwickshire. Our artist has sketched a match, at the moment of a "skirmish;" the buildings in the background being the Chapel and part of the School house.

Foot-ball, a term used by metonymy for the diversion of driving the ball itself, is mentioned by Fitzstephen, among the games of the Londoners, in the time of Henry II. Pepys, in his *Memoirs*, A.D. 1664-5, says, "January 2, to my Lord Brouncier's by appointment in the Piazza, Covent garden: the street full of foot-balls, it being a great frost." About a century since too, matches of Foot-ball were played in the Strand, where the Maypole streamer flaunted in the breeze.

Nevertheless, Foot ball was mostly played by "sturdie plowmen, lustie, strong, and bold," or, as the courtly Waller sings:—

A sort of lusty shepherds try
Makes their salute so rudely breast to breast,
Their force at foot-ball; care of victory
That their encounter seems too rough for jest.

Sometimes, pease and horse-beans were put into the ball, a blown bladder;

and then,
It rattleth, soundeth, and shineth clear and With foot and with hands the bladder for to smite;

While it is thrown, and cast up in the ayre,
If it fall to the grounde, they lift it up agayne,

Each one contendeth and hath a great delte,
And this waye to labour they count it no payne.

Formerly, money was given at weddings for Foot-ball play; and, not many years since, it was customary, in the north of England, among the colliers, to watch the bridegroom's coming out of church, after the ceremony, in order to demand money for a foot-ball.

THE ANDRIA' AT ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, WESTMINSTER.

We gave a brief notice of this classical and interesting performance last week. It is curious to see the old fashion of Latin play-acting survive in our own matter-of-fact times, when even the hallowed practice of Latin annotations to editions of the classics has almost disappeared. We cannot but think it well such old-world customs should survive at our public schools. They form a link between the present and the past, and do much to perpetuate in England that conservative feeling which, as earnest advocates of progress, we wish to see active, in order to make progress safe and sure. Attraction is as necessary for advancement in politics as in mechanics, and without collision of opinion we can no more get on in the one than we could without friction in the other.

Of the costume of the play we must speak in the highest terms. All was Greek, and correct. The young *Pamphilus* wore his *chlamys* with the grace of an *Antinous*; while old *Davus* draped his pallium dexterously and classically. The acting was hardly up to the average. We may except the *Davus* of Mr. Milman, which was rough and significant enough. However, the enunciation was distinct, the parts as perfectly committed to memory as ever.

The Epilogue, with its allusions to the railway mania, was taken by the audience in every point, and lost nothing in delivery at the hands of *Davus*, *Pamphilus*, and the other interlocutors.

We subjoin the Latin. In our columns of gossip will be found an English translation, with the Latin metre preserved and aided by rhyme.

PROLOGUS IN ANDRIAM.

Salvete:—Prologum forsitan comedie,
Spectator aliquis serius dar. putet:—
Hujusca nostri solliciti spectacula;
Non nocte prima, ut altera, den. tertia,
Hunc Prologum, Epilogumque insuper
placeat dare.
Nomen Terentii fabula prefatur:
Parum Terentium norma proficit:—
Esto—arbitrarius lenitus, qui conservet
Tenore histrio quale sit periculum
Quam levia primus aeps tardum impetum.
Eant Atheneas optimates Angeli,
Roman poetis iur et pictoribus,

EPILOGUS.

Enter DAVUS, with a newspaper or "share list" in his hand.
Nulla dies sine linea! ut, hercule! premium in horas
Accrescit nostra! [PAMPHILUS crosses the stage; DAVUS continues calling to him.] Pamphilus, ut reor, est.
Quoso Capitana venisti proxime ab Aula?
Pa! Quisnam hic? quid garrit? Da! Tu non nos, Pamphile, noris?
DA. Non nos, Da! tu non nos novis?
Quid te tam mitatum et contemptum facit? Da! mihi tandem
Frospe-xi! Pa! Melius quam mihi noscitur.
Die vero, nostris agitur quid civitas? Da! Itur:
Omnis illa via est, redire, labor.
Vite praestantur iam vera viistica; si sit
Expendendum, "animal mobile" natus homos est.
Ordo novus rerum—erravi! novus ordo rotarum
Surgit—necessestare loco aut loculis.
PA. Ah! verum id verbum est. Da! Sed tu, mihi Pamphile, visu es
Substrata—minus an nostra γλυκεια placet?
PA. UXOR et infans percara negotia sunt, hoc
Repperi—et est prope res perdita. DA. Restituum.
Ecco! metalli tibi transmutabuntur, ab Iro
Crescas eris! tabulas accipe fructiferas!
Andisti nomen! Megarensis, Atheni-que-enis,
Et Grandis Peloponnesica, hucce via est:
Totiusq; mundi scilicet regnum, elector erit tu!
PA. Ludis me. DA. Minima! nihil istud agat.
Audi iam-imprimit tabula inspicienda locorum est:
Urbis tu bibus, rex velut, eligito.
Ordine cum canthus longo enumeratis oportet,
Quotquot vici inter urbem utrumque jacent.
Commoda describat operis, lucrumque futurum;
Fixo! non decies multiplicanda. PA. Proba.
DA. Nam regio ac situs est apicis-imus—omnia plana-
Vix quicquam dignum nomine colliculi.
Ductor ascensio acili, scalique gradatim;
PA. Tantillam ercenti! quid via fonsibus uteris armis?
DA. Ah! nos rem facimus, non miliare credem, Vias.
Id current aili! quid restat? inane sequenti
Promulgat coptum munita charta novam.
Collaudant ut turba foro—pecus omne fremiscit
Cervinum; inque dies evelutum pretium,
Acceptum mihi serva: at justa tempore vendas!
Sic aurum ex miliu nactus eris solidum.
Nomin-enim-artistis Doctoris byssus hodiernus,
At quo Realista nos simul extitimus.
PA. Omnis artus invenitum hoc, expere pueri,
Dave, mihi effigiem? DA. Experiare modo!
Ne te prevenient aili, hec ubi causa timoris?

Enter SOSIA, LESSEA, CHREMES, and MYSIS.

DA. Dave, novum hanc instituisse Viam?
DA. Immo. (All together.) Script—script—script—Scriptum mihi distribuendum

Cures oro. PA. Et tu, Sosia! tuique, Chremi! Mysis, omnis enim suadebat. PA. Eas n'm formulae calter

Ambages? Q. Mys? Quidni? nonne ego serve (cerva) voca?

DA. Omnigenus grecus est.

Enter SIMO, fuming.

SI. Ubina est, to aegio, magister!

DA. Oh! salve! age aliquod ferre, sihere, Simo!

SI. Cur vexillest, domino nolente, volente,

Huc ille nostro curistat agmen agro?

DA. Designatores metatoeque—ego misi—

Itur per villam, vir venerande, tunc.

SI. Perge aliam, credo, ac concilie! ita janum ad ipsam,

Impulsu ludorum stans facit iste Dromo!

Quo discessisse leges? nullusne pudori

Jam locus? DA. Ah! in nra hunc erubuisse puto.

SI. Servabat sacrus Deos olim terminus agros;

Confundit vester terminus omne solum!

Enter Crito.

SIMO continuo! Quisnam hue prospexit? Crito!

Vix respicit! SI. Solve! age aliquod ferre, sihere, Crito!

Tristes enim e ferro. SI. Di magni! vestra furorum hunc

Insa concepit? DA. Cum ratione furit.

CR. Est via qua Cycladas passim atmospherica jungat.

Trans freta sponitis pontibus sericeis!

DA. Magnificum! SI. At non tu ista moves? CR. Ah vera fatebor;

Januam ibus arietum est. Clivis, sidis a sequi,</

"A Stranger."—Fleming and Tibbins's Great French Dictionary, 2 vols., is a complete work.
 "Scotus"—Lord Brougham is in his sixty sixth year.
 "An Inquirer" is recommended to apply to an Army Agent.
 "Dennis's" yarn we have not room for.
 "Annie M." Liverpool.—We are not aware that the celebrated villa of Marble Hill, at Twickenham, has been taken down; though, Strawberry Hill has been dismantled.
 "A Subscriber" should apply to a Navy Agent. The pay of a Midshipman is £31 per annum.
 "D. T. R. C." Nottingham.—By order, of any bookseller.
 "Inquisitor."—A note addressed to Messrs Mears, Bell founders, Whitechapel, may succeed. Crawford's work was published several years since.
 "B. T. F. D." Travancore, is thanked for the loan of the Sketch, which has been duly returned.
 "A Constant Subscriber."—The Portrait has not appeared in our Journal.
 "Zeta," Liverpool.—See Kell's Elements of General Knowledge.
 "C. H. W."—The pay of an Ensign is £5 3d. a day. An application for a commission should be sent to the Commander in Chief.
 "A Subscriber"—A younger son is entitled to his father's Arms and Crest.
 "Ignoramus."—A Chamber Counsel is a Barrister whose practice is confined to giving opinions, drawing conveyances, pleadings, &c., and who seldom or never goes into court.
 "A Civilian."—The pay of a Lieutenant of Infantry is 6s. 6d. a day: after 7 years' service, 7s. 6d.
 "A Portsmouth Subscriber."—The pay of a Clerk in the Navy, 1st rate, is £4 14s. per month; of a Clerk, 2nd and 3rd rate, £4 6s. 4d.; of a Clerk, 4th rate, £3 18s. 8d.; and of all others, £3 11s.
 "Aetrios," Dublin.—Her Majesty's late Visit to Warzburg is illustrated in No. 176 of our Journal.
 "Inquisitor."—Any music seller will reply.
 "Sportmen."—By a statute passed in 1831, 1 and 2 William IV., c. 32. the word Game is declared to include hares, pheasants, partridges, grouse, heath or moor game, black game, and bus arde.
 "Scotus" is referred to the Key to our View of London in 1845. "The Queen of the North" will be early in our series of Views of Cities.
 "A Sussex Flat" cannot do better than continue his present method.
 "A Subscriber" Glasgow.—The "Evening Melodies" have been anonymously contributed to our Journal.
 "G. L. C." Gower-street.—A joke that requires a "solution," must either be a poor affair, or the hearer a dullard. If our Correspondent has ever read when on a journey by railway, he must have perceived that the joke is but a humorous exaggeration.
 "E. H. H."—Declined.
 "C. H. W."—"Cooper's Medical Dictionary."
 "N. D. V." Kirkcaldy.—The titles are synonymous.
 "C. H., an Old Subscriber's" question is better fitted for reply in a school than in a newspaper.
 "C. B."—The story has already appeared in a Leicester journal.
 "A Constant Reader" may purchase a qualification to vote for a county for as low a sum as £60: the purchase should be completed in January, to secure a vote at the next registration.
 "A Constant Reader," Knighton.—The books at the Bank of England are only closed for about one month half yearly, before the payment of dividends.
 "D. D." Bishops Wallham.—The impression of a pending scarcity prevails in every country of Europe. The measures of precaution taken by Foreign Governments have produced the crisis here.
 Minster and Cathedral are not quite synonymous, as we stated lately: the one being a corruption of Monasterium, and denoting properly an abbey; but now, when the abbey churches are almost all left of them, it denotes an abbey church: Cathedral, from the Greek καθεδρα, "a seat," is the church in which the Bishop's throne is. Generally, each cathedral is a minster or abbey church as well; but there are several minsters, as, for instance, Beverley Minster or Southwell Minster, which are not cathedrals.—
 "R. S. H. K."—Miss Cushman, her sister, will re-appear in London, in a few days.
 "A Subscriber from the Commencement."—Certainly not.
 "W. W." Leeds.—We believe Mr. C. Mathews to be Mr. Buckstone's senior.
 "U. E. S." East End.—Mr. W. Harrison is 35 years of age: he is a native of London, but was brought up in the North of England.
 "C. O." Dundee, is thanked; but we have not room for the Illustration.
 "Mox," Warwick.—Certain of the lines possess merit; but, as a whole, the contribution is ineligible.
 "Madeleine," Doner.—We have not room.
 "Junior" should apply to a Solicitor.
 "Query."—The dispute must be settled by the practice of the trade.
 "G. D." Ventnor, wishes to ascertain the dimensions of the smallest Church in England.
 "R." Wilton.—Next week.
 "J. L." London Road.—Apply to Messrs. Nickells and Co., York Road.
 "Epopeus," St. Austell.—Postmasters are appointed by the Postmaster General.
 "A Constant Reader," Knighton.—A person may learn the Accordion by an Instruction Book.

The SEVENTH VOLUME of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, Price Eighteen Shillings, will be ready the First Week in January, 1846, elegantly Bound in Cloth and Gold, Gilt Edges, rich in Illustrations of the passing events of the last Six Months, forming a most complete and valuable ILLUSTRATED CHRONOLOGY. No expense or exertion has been spared to render this JOURNAL worthy of the high and extensive Patronage which it has obtained both at Home, Abroad, and in the Colonies. Amongst the Engravings will be found Graphic ILLUSTRATIONS of Her Majesty's Visit to Germany. Portraits of Eminent Men in Art, Literature, Science, Music, and the Drama; Sketches of Yacht Matches, Races, Steeple Chases, Agricultural Meetings, Fêtes, Fashions, Locomotive and Atmospheric Railways; Railway Stations, Concerts, Fêtes, &c.; Views of all Remarkable Towns, Places, &c., connected with the Events of the last Six Months.

Subscribers are informed that Cases for binding Vol. 7 are now ready. Vol. 1, price 21s.; Vols. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, price 18s. each. Cases for binding any of the Volumes, price 3s. each.

* All the back numbers are reprinted, price 6d. each, and may be had, by order, of any bookseller in the world.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1845.

FORMATION OF THE NEW MINISTRY.

AT THE time we write, various reports are in circulation, but we forbear to notice them, in the belief that we shall, in a later impression, be enabled to give an authorized statement respecting the formation of a new Cabinet, about which such anxiety prevails.

In the meantime, we may state that, on Thursday morning, Lord John Russell arrived from Windsor, and forthwith a meeting of the leading Whigs took place at his Lordship's residence. This conference lasted a considerable time, and, at its conclusion, the Noble Lord went back to Windsor, and had an audience of her Majesty, to submit the result of the conference. It is obvious that, until this was done, the decision of the Noble Lord upon the important matter under consideration could not be made public. We are in a position to communicate the particulars as soon as they can with propriety be allowed to transpire.

The Times of Wednesday mentioned a rumour that the post of Commander-in-Chief had been offered to Prince Albert, and states that it had obtained currency on Change. In our late edition of Saturday last we mentioned the report, which was then current at the West-end.

From the latest information, derived from the best sources, we can state positively that the new Administration is at length formed.

THERE is one question connected with the present state of political affairs which appears rather to be overlooked in the manifold speculations as to who is to be in and who is to remain out, though, to the country, it is of as much importance. If the present Parliament is dissolved in a few weeks after it is called together, what is to become of the six or seven hundred new Railway Bills awaiting its decision? How will those partly proceed with last session be disposed of? By a special regulation the progress they had made in Committee at the time the session closed, was allowed to be reckoned in the next, and that they should be resumed at the point where the inquiries then closed. This might be done from one session to another of the same Parliament, but we know not how this Parliament can establish any regulation that would be binding on the new one that succeeds it. Without committing a breach of the Constitution we doubt if it is possible for it to make any such

order. A new Parliament must begin *de novo*; thus, the progress made and interrupted last year will go for nothing, and the bills now lodged will make no progress at all. There is an absolute necessity that the Legislature should be called together at the earliest possible period in order to come to some decision on this question alone.

It requires but little reflection to perceive the excessive injury that this great and growing public interest will receive from this check, produced by political circumstances, with which it, itself, has nothing to do. When Parliament meets, its attention will be engrossed by the great question on which the "to be or not to be" of parties depends. Private business will be of very secondary interest; whatever is done in it will rather be directed to clearing off the remanents from last session, than forwarding the new-born schemes. This, in the few weeks which political seers allot to the approaching session, will be but imperfectly accomplished: then comes the dissolution, and the consequent scattering of all parties to the winds, to gather themselves together again in new combinations. The election will take some weeks, and a new Legislature will meet again, with the same great public question before it to be set at rest; many of the members, it is not unnatural to suppose, will be new to that practical part of their duties which the experience of past sessions has so thoroughly impressed on the old ones. Then, unless the new Parliament sits unusually late into the next year, but little will be done, in proportion to the enormous mass of private business which is before them to do. All this augurs ill for the actual progress of Railway business in the ensuing year.

The energy and improving spirit of the country is thus checked and fettered by making them dependent on the changes and chances of political events. Questions of pure calculation, matters of practical and scientific enquiry, which raise no debates of principle, are left floating on the capricious sea of politics, which sometimes, like the ocean itself, does indeed "ebb and flow by the moon." Should this be so, and could not the inconvenience be remedied?

The subject of enquiry before a Railway Committee is plain matter of fact; the necessity of a line between point and point, the amount of traffic, the difficulties to be surmounted, and the means of overcoming them, the comparative advantages and disadvantages of rival lines, are all matters of fact, detail, and figures, which could be as well decided whether a Parliament was sitting or not, or whether the Treasury Bench is occupied by the Whigs or the Conservatives. The confusion and embarrassment into which the greatest branch of national internal business will be thrown by the impending dissolution, will more strongly than ever press on the attention of the public a question more than once mooted before—whether it is not both desirable and possible to create some permanent tribunal for the preliminary investigation of railway undertakings.

The supreme power of our Legislature should be in all things upheld, or that body would sink in importance, and our constitutional system gradually degenerate into a weakness which might be abused even to the loss of national freedom. The Parliament then must remain the last grand court of appeal from all inferior and permanent bodies, and the source of the necessary powers to purchase, occupy, and construct. We should not wish to see one particle of its power in these respects taken from it. But from the irksome task of enquiring into traffic, gradients, and levels, the checking of counsel, and the examination of engineers, it might surely be saved to the great advantage of all parties. This work of preparation might be trusted to a Board, which should sit in permanence, continuing its labours free from the interruptions of Ministerial "crises" and "difficulties." Composed of competent and scientific men, it would be more capable of selecting the best and most practicable lines than gentlemen chosen with little or no regard to their fitness for the task imposed on them. Sitting continuously, it would become thoroughly acquainted with the subject; as one body, it would act with more unity and a greater knowledge of the bearing of one scheme on all others, than the numerous little knots and parties into which the Legislature now divides itself. Give it the power to crush all bubble, fictitious, and useless lines in the bud, but compel it to make a clear and succinct report to Parliament of the lines it decides upon, to be there confirmed by an act, and no doubt can be entertained of the great advantages that would ensue. Other kinds of business have been delegated to Boards and Departments, which can act while the Parliament, by prorogation or dissolution, is in abeyance; and when we consider that the pending Railway Bills represent hundreds of millions of capital, and affect the traffic and communication of the whole empire, it is evident that some further, more certain, and permanent, but still subordinate power, must be created to dispose of them.

THE only strong expression of opinion excited in France by the change in the English Ministry, is one adverse to the appointment of Lord Palmerston as a member of the new Cabinet. In all other respects, the break-up of the Conservative Government is regarded as a matter of little importance; but the nomination of Lord Palmerston to the Foreign Office is considered as unfavourable to the continuance of peace. The Eastern Question, and the Treaty of 1840 are not forgotten; and as our Minister of Foreign Affairs did then, for a time, take a position independent of France, and caused a passing excitement which took a warlike tendency, his coming into office again is looked upon as ominous of war. But, though our policy at that time was one independent and exclusive of France, we must deny that it was hostile to that country or its interests. The integrity of the Turkish Empire was threatened by the revolt of a rebellious Pacha; the Powers of Europe were bound to interfere to maintain that tottering State, which has long been unable to maintain itself. France was invited to join in that interference, and, on her refusal, what would have been done with her, was effected without her; *voilà tout*. It does not appear that a single interest of France, either territorial or commercial, was injured. But the nation is, perhaps, more susceptible of an apparent slight to its dignity, than of a real blow to its material welfare, and the journals raised a war-cry, which, if it failed to involve Europe in a war, was rather to be attributed to the good sense of the people, than the moderation of their leaders. A remnant of the feeling remains; because Lord Palmerston has been once charged with the intention of insulting France, it is taken for granted that his whole foreign policy (if he gets into office) will involve a series of insults to that country. But any Minister who should exhibit the least tendency to indulge such a disposition, malice prepense, would instantly lose confidence and support. There is no war party in England; we have for many years turned our attention almost exclusively to commercial questions: when the mind of a people takes this direction, war becomes more than ever repugnant to its inclination. Without a war party in the country, a war Ministry in power is an impossibility. Our ambition is to weave and spin, and manufacture for the world; and it would be a strange inconsistency of us to harbour a desire of shooting our customers. The Paris journals may magnify Lord Palmerston into a sort of bugbear, but the tendency of public opinion in England compels him to be a conservative of the peace of all nations. We suspect, however, it was more the manner in which the late—perhaps, we should say, the present—Secretary for Foreign Affairs did a certain act, than the act itself, which excited the anger of our brethren across the Channel; thrice, within the last few days, we have seen the *National* quoting a passage from some alleged speech of Lord Palmerston's, to the effect that he would make the French Government "go

through the eye of a needle." What is meant by it we cannot fathom; nor does our memory of past debates recall any such expression. Does it shadow out a Scriptural allusion, perverted by translation? Was it used as a threat, or to deplore a great impossibility? We know not, and we fear Hansard would not assist us; but, whatever it was, it gave great offence, and has been long remembered; for we not only see it often alluded to by the French press, but have heard it denounced as an insult by Frenchmen in society. We should like to see it cleared up; there is some mistake at the bottom of it, for such decided language appears anything but diplomatic; and Palmerston is too adroit in Ministerial practice to commit the very unofficial blunder of letting his words betray his feelings.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE NEW WHIG MINISTRY.

Some of our contemporaries publish lists of the new Ministry; but as we know that all the arrangements are not finally settled, we decline to copy them. At the same time we are enabled to state that the names will include nearly the whole of the members of the last Whig Administration, although some of the leading appointments will be differently distributed. Lord John Russell held a long conference with his official friends in Chesham-place yesterday, and it is probable that a perfect list of the new Ministry will shortly appear in an extraordinary *Gazette*. At all events we hope to be able to present it to our readers in the course of this day (Saturday). We have made arrangements to gratify the public curiosity with the least possible delay.

DEATH OF LORD WHARNCLIFFE.

We regret to learn that Lord Wharncliffe, late Lord President of the Council, expired at his residence in Curzon-street, at half-past ten o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning.

The deceased Lord was born in October, 1776. He married, the 30th of March, 1799, Elizabeth Caroline Mary, daughter of John, first Earl of Erne, by whom he had issue: the Hon. John Stuart Wortley, M.P. for the West Riding of Yorkshire; Charles Stuart Wortley; James Archibald Stuart Wortley, M.P. for the county of Bute; and Caroline Jane Wortley. The deceased Lord represented the county of York for several years in Parliament, and obtained his Peerage by patent on the 12th of July, 1826. A vacancy is thus created in the representation of the West Riding of Yorkshire, the title of Lord Wharncliffe.

WOODSTOCK ELECTION.—Lord Alfred Churchill, second son of the Duke of Marlborough, was on Thursday morning elected without opposition for Woodstock, in the room of Lord Loftus, who has been raised to the peerage by the death of the Marquis of Ely.

EXPLOSION IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—An explosion of a steam-engine boiler, attended with loss of life, injury to 16 or 17 persons, and considerable damage to property, took place at a colliery belonging to Messrs. G. C. Thorneycroft and Co., near Willenhall, on Monday last. Mr. Thorneycroft was badly scalded and bruised; Edward Hood, engineer, was killed; and John Reece, engineer, had his legs broken. All the persons injured are going on favourably.

FIRE AT WANDSWORTH.—On Thursday morning, shortly before one o'clock, a fire broke out upon the extensive premises of Mr. R. Bell, saw-mill proprietor, and lucifer-match manufacturer, situate in Garrett-lane, Wandsworth. It originated in the saw-mill department, a building 70 feet long by 50 wide. By five o'clock the contents of the place in which the fire began was destroyed and the building nearly consumed. Several of the adjoining premises are also severely damaged. The cause of the fire is unknown. Mr. Bell was uninsured for stock, but the buildings were insured in the County Fire Office.

THE LATE MURDER IN LAMBETH.—A subscription has been entered into on behalf of the widow and family of the unfortunate man Fitzgerald, who are left entirely destitute by the melancholy bereavement.

ANOTHER BARBAROUS MURDER IN IRELAND.—The south riding of Tipperary has become the scene of a blood stained and cruel murder. The victim in this instance is Mr. Charles Acheson, formerly a respectable and extensive trader in Clonmel; but, being unfortunate in business, was obliged to take a situation as clerk in the employment of Messrs. John Stein and Co., the distillers, at Marfield. He went into Clonmel on Monday evening, and delayed some time at the house of Mr. G. Glissan, town-clerk, which he left about nine o'clock, and was accompanied by Mr. Glissan as far as the Union workhouse, where he bade him good night, when the unfortunate man proceeded on his way alone. He was waylaid in a lonesome part of the road near Birkhill, and within forty perches of his own house, and beaten with stones in the head and breast in a most frightful manner; the eyeballs were dislodged from their sockets, and his brains dashed about the road! The lifeless body was found next morning in the horrible manner above described. The only cause that can be assigned for this horrible murder is, that Mr. Acheson discharged three men from the distillery last week for misconduct.

MURDER AT JERSEY.—There has been a murder at Jersey, which has excited a great sensation in the Channel Islands. The name of the victim is Thomas Hodge, the name of the murderer John Noon, both seamen. It appears that the individual who has thus fallen a victim to brutal violence and passion was a sailor belonging to a vessel which trades between the port of Jersey and Newfoundland. About three weeks ago he arrived in St. Helier's from the latter place, and took up his lodgings in Mulcaster-street, generally frequented by the better class of seamen. He was universally respected as a quiet, orderly individual. On Wednesday, the 10th instant, being the anniversary of his birthday, he treated his friends to an entertainment in the house in which he resided. In return for the compliment, his fellow lodgers, being just on the eve of departure for a distant port, invited him on the evening of the following Saturday to a farewell entertainment in the house at which they had all mutually taken up their residence. The hour of ten had arrived, and the whole party were quietly seated at supper, when the individual who is at present in custody upon the atrocious charge of wickedly depriving a fellow-creature of his life, intruded upon their innocent hilarity. Seating himself down in the midst of the company of females, Noon still continued his oaths and imprecations as before. All efforts proving unavailing, it was at length found necessary to remove him from the apartment. The deceased, with the view of seeing that no harm should result to the individual, volunteered to accompany him on board his vessel, where he was to take up his quarters for the night. Hodge had only proceeded a few steps upon his way, and was descending a flight of steps which led from the door of the house to the court below, when the murderer was observed to draw from his pocket a large knife. Before, however, the murderous instrument reached the spot at which it was evidently intended to be struck, it fell upon the assassin's hands; but hastily stooping to the ground, it was in a moment plunged into the thigh of the individual who, regardless of inconvenience, had so willingly volunteered to do an act of kindness. The unfortunate victim only survived for a short space of time, and in three minutes from his receiving the fatal stab of the assassin, he had breathed his last. The assassin has been arrested.

FRIGHTFUL AND EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE AT FORFAR.—About 10 o'clock on the forenoon of Wednesday (last week), the whole community near Forfar were thrown into a state of extreme excitement by a report that William Brown and William McLeish, two labourers, had been suffocated while employed in repairing a well on the property of James Barclay, Esq., a short distance south from the town. Hundreds of people were seen hurrying from all quarters towards the scene of the catastrophe, manifesting the greatest possible anxiety for the safety of the unfortunate men. It was soon ascertained that both of the men were alive, though closely wedged into the well by part of the rubbish, the wooden work at the top of the well having fallen down. Hundreds of people in the town were soon engaged in cutting a large trench into the garden leading to the well, so as to remove the pressure from the top of the well. The people continued to work in the trench all day, and in the evening, by the light of torches, when it was proposed to dig another pit about six feet distant from the well, so as to get out Brown, the lowest down. On the following day (Thursday) the men continued to dig in the pit by turns. A small gas pipe was inserted through the rubbish to Brown, and soup and stimulating liquors were conveyed down to him through the pipe. A small hand saw was also conveyed down this aperture, and he cut through a beam of wood which was lying across his breast, and thus got himself relieved. Throughout Thursday Brown's spirits continued to rally, while those of McLeish, from the pain of his injuries, fell somewhat. Brown, in his turn, encouraged him. Afternoon came, and still they had to penetrate further down, until they got as low down as Brown. The workmen, after much trouble, were enabled to communicate freely with Brown, who was at a depth of about 40 feet, by means of a tunnel between the two excavations; but being so closely wedged in by the fallen rubbish, he was unable to avail himself of that means of escape. At this critical juncture his brother boldly passed through the tunnel, and, at the risk of being precipitated into the bottom of the well, rescued him from his perilous situation. He is now considered out of danger. Great anxiety was now manifested for the extinction of his unfortunate companion, McLeish. On Sunday night it was determined to make another attempt to save the unfortunate man McLeish, by beginning at the top of the well, and to renew the boring of it all the way down to where he was, but all their efforts were unavailing. McLeish expired in his awful situation about half-past eight next morning (Monday). Early in the morning he appeared to be in good spirits, although much more pressed than before the rubbish slipped down with him.



BRINGING IN CHRISTMAS.—DRAWN BY WILLIAM HARVEY.





DRAWN BY KENNY MEADOWS.

"BRINGING IN CHRISTMAS."

"A merry Christmas! and a happy New Year! I'm very glad to see you." The pair of noble pictures upon the preceding pages—by two of the master pencils of this graphic age—require but slight literary illustration. Perhaps, they tell their own national story: we say national, for the commemoration of Christmas in this country is peculiar, and exclusively its own. Hear the evidence of a contemporary, in a passage which has been, as it were, the epigraph of our Artists' "Bringing in Christmas":—

"Of the 'high days of the Calendar,' Christmas was always the one which held the chief place in England, where it was celebrated in a manner so different from what was customary in other countries, as to excite the astonishment of foreigners. As soon as the Christmas holidays had arrived, work and care were universally thrown aside; and, instead of devotional practices, by which other countries commemorated the sacred occasion, England rang from one end to the other with mirth and jollity. Christmas Carols were trodden in every street; masquerades and plays took possession of houses and churches indifferently; a lord of misrule, whose reign lasted from All Hallow Eve till the day after the Feast of Pentecost, was elected in every noble household to preside over the sports and fooleries of the inmates, while each member prepared himself either to enact some strange character, or to devise some new stroke of mirth. The towns, on these occasions, assumed a sylvan appearance; the houses were dressed with branches of ivy and holly; the churches were converted into leafy tabernacles; and standards bedecked with evergreens were set up in the streets, while the young of both sexes danced around them."

No description, however, can give us an idea so vivid of the reign of this madcap potentate, and the character of an English Christmas, as the following sketch, in which the bairn of Stubb's rises into absolute eloquence:—

"First, all the wild heads of the parish, converging together, chose them a grand captain (of mischief), whom they ennobled with the title of my Lord of Misrule, and him they crown with great solemnity, and adopt for their King. This king anointed chuseh for him twenty, forty, three score, or a hundred lusty gouts, like to himself, to wait upon his lordly majesty, and to guard his noble person. Then, every one of these his men he investeth with his liveries of green, yellow, or some other wanton colour. And as though that were not gaudy enough, they bedeck themselves with scarfs, ribbons, and laces, hanged all over with gold rings, precious stones, and other jewels; this done, they tie about either leg twenty or forty bells, with rich handkerchiefs in their hands, and sometimes laid across over their shoulders and necks, borrowed for the most part of their party of pretty Mopsies and loving Bessies for bussing them in the dark."

Our Artist has grouped the most characteristic celebrities of the season. High above the mirthful band hangs the evergreen. The storm rages without, but not to chill the Mummers and Minstrels, with their ludicrous frolics, not forgetting the Hobby horse Dance:—

We are com' over the Mire and Moss: | A Dragon you shall see,
We dance an Hobby horse; | And a wild worm for to flee.

Then we have the Loving Cup, borrowed from the Wassail-Bowl, though the latter was carried about with an image of Our Saviour. Nor is the huge Yule Log forgotten—to light up "the loud festivity of mirth."

OLD ENGLISH CHRISTMAS.

(See the Engravings.)

While young and old, and grave and gay,
Have all their merry modern way
Of making "Christmas Mince,"

Come let us see, how full of glee
The jolly Monarch used to be
All in the Olden Time!

His fun and frolic, by your leave,
Were full as bright on Christmas Eve
As ever are they now:

He used to have his bowl, I ween,
And quaff his toast of "Death to Spleen"
Beneath the kissing bough!

He used—... but mercy on our rhyme!
Here is his Majesty sublime,
By all the house-hold known

As jolly CHRISTMAS—and, see! see!
They chair him, like a new M.P.,
In triumph to his throne.

At, thus it was the ancient way,
For every home on Christmas Day,
To have its proper King;

They brew'd his bowl, they rear'd his throne,
They rigg'd a CHRISTMAS of their own,
And made him dance and sing.

And so they bore him hand in hand,
The Bacchus of their merry band,
With cup, and crown, and bough,
And made him drink, and laugh—ho! ho!
Beneath the kissing mistletoe—

Even as we see him now!

Look out! Look out! Beyond the door
The white snow driveth more and more—
The moon rides through the cloud!
But there are ummers 'neath her light,
And though it be a winter night,

Their mirth shall yet be loud!

Look in! Look in!—the sports begin;
Now listen to their merry din.

What gleeful voices sing

Their well-dressed Christmas on his way;
Arch President of all their play,

And in their homestead, King!

Maiden and yeoman—ripe for kisses—
Together bear this king of blisses,
With mistletoe in hand.

The Wassail Bowl is borne before,
The huge Yule Log is on the floor,
The blaze is near at hand.

But ere he reach his throne, I vow!
Well placed and velvet-cushioned now,
They make him pause beneath the bough,
With flagon full in hand.

There must he pledge a cup of joy
To chubby little Cupid boy

("Love, life, and youth, without alloy"),
The pet of all their band.

Fair lovely women round him group,
And reverend age that still can stoop
To mix in childhood's mirth;

And lusty boys, who proudly bear
The bowl in which he drowns his care—

That mighty Christmas river there,
Enough to drown the earth.

Now let him on his throne slight,
He's brought us all a jovial night;

Of old it was a pleasant sight,

To see him brisk and mellow!

But whether in the days we've sung,

Or modern moments, old or young,

CHRISTMAS is own'd by every tongue

To be a RARE OLD FELLOW!

COURT AND HAUT TON.

WINDSOR, THURSDAY EVENING.—(From our own Correspondent)—Lord John Russell and the Marquis of Lansdowne, who arrived at the Castle last evening, a few minutes past ten o'clock, took their departure this morning for Slough, and proceeded from that station to Paddington, by the train which left at ten minutes before eleven o'clock. Lord John and the noble marquis were received by Her Majesty for upwards of half an hour previously to their departure from the Castle. In consequence of the extremely unfavourable nature of the weather, her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the Infant Royal Family, have been prevented from taking their accustomed airings. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited her Majesty this afternoon. A special messenger arrived at the Castle this afternoon with despatches from Lord John Russell. The Royal dinner party this evening included the Duchess of Kent, the Baroness de Spaeth, and Lady Fanny Howard.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR.—We are happy to say that the Lord Chancellor is convalescent, and that his Lordship has for some days past given interviews at his private house to several gentlemen of the Chancery bar upon matters of pressing importance.

ARRIVAL OF LORD METCALFE IN LONDON.—His Excellency Lord Metcalfe, accompanied by Captain and Mrs. Brownrigg, Captains Balfour and Campbell, and a numerous suite, arrived on Wednesday at Mivart's Hotel, from Liverpool.

MATCH AGAINST TIME.—Mr. Lilly's match, for £100, to ride from Newmarket to London and back in twelve hours, was accomplished a few minutes under nine hours. The distance is about 118 miles.

MUSIC.

The musical events since our last publication have not been remarkable. The second of Miss Mounsey's excellent series of Sacred Concerts was given on Wednesday night at Crosby Hall, Messrs. Francis and Lockey being the tenors, Mr. A. Novello bass, and Misses Steele and Sabilla Novello the sopranos. On Tuesday, Mr. Lincoln's second evening with the Great Composers at the Western Institution was devoted to the works of Cimarosa, with Misses Lincoln, Duval, and Turner, Messrs. Weatherbee, J. N. Novello, and Garston, as interpreters of the glees, which were from the celebrated "Gli Orzai" and "Il Matrimonio Segreto," and the less known operas of "Il Matrimonio per Raggiero," "Il Credulo," "I due Baroni," &c. Dominique Cimarosa was born in Aversa, in the Neapolitan dominions, in 1754. He was left fatherless at the age of seven years, but a benevolent monk, who was an organist, discovered his genius, and entered him as a pupil at the Conservatoire of Loretto. At nineteen he wrote his first opera, "La Baronesse," and on the following year he produced at Rome, "L'Italiana in Londra." In 1787, at the invitation of the Empress Catharine, he went to St. Petersburg, and accepted the post of Composer to the Imperial Theatre. The climate not agreeing with him, Cimarosa went to Vienna in 1792, where he was appointed Chapel-master by the Emperor of Austria, and where he produced his masterpiece, "Il Matrimonio." As an instance of its extraordinary success, it may be mentioned that the Emperor, after a supper given to the composer and performers on the first representation, actually encroached the whole opera, and it was repeated the same night! In 1793 Cimarosa returned to Naples. He died at Venice in 1801, in his 47th year, after a series of great triumphs: he was contemporary with Paisiello and Guglielmi. He wrote 82 works; and many of his vocal pieces are still heard with delight in the Concert-room.

Both Covent Garden and Drury Lane Theatres have been remarkably well attended this week. We have remarked that the attention to the classical masters at M. Jullien's Concerts has been more earnest of late, and that the applause for the noisy quadrilles has been sensibly diminished. This is a proof that the taste of the good public may be directed in the right channel, and that "sound and fury," with "sherry cobler" obligato, are not altogether the most attractive items.

Mr. Wallace's "Maritana" is achieving wonders for the Drury Lane lessee, who, encouraged by this triumph of a native composer, has accepted an opera by Mr. George Macfarren, called "Don Quixote." The libretto was written by the father (now no more) of the composer. It will be remembered that Macfarren, senior and junior, produced the popular work called "The Devil's Opera," at the English Opera House some years since. The hero of La Mancha is to be enacted by Mr. Weiss, whose figure is certainly well adapted for the part. Miss Raibert is to be the heroine, and there is a talk of Mr. Phillips being the "Sancho Panza." This will be Mr. Burn's first novelty after the Pantomime. Mr. Benedict's opera of "The Crusaders" is next in rotation, and will be brought out at the close of January. The vocal strength of this lyrical establishment will be called into play in Mr. Benedict's production; and as the subject admits of splendid spectacle, the scenic and mechanical resources are to be put in requisition on the grandest scale.

Theodore Dohler, the pianist, is expected this season in London, as also two rival artists from Prague—players of the key-splitting school.

Madame Dulcken's soirees will be resumed next month.

We regret to learn that the veteran violinist, John Loder, has been severely indisposed.

The sixth and last Chamber Concert of the Society of British Musicians will be given on Monday; and on the same evening the Choral Harmonists have their second meeting in the City.

On Tuesday, Handel's "Messiah" will be repeated; Mrs. Sunderland, Miss M. B. Hawes, Messrs. Hobbs, and H. Phillips, being the principal vocalists. Mrs. Sunderland has made a favourable impression at her début in Exeter Hall. She has a powerful soprano of good quality and compass, but lacks feeling and refinement; she will, no doubt, on her second appearance, dispense with some provincial roulaides. We congratulate Mr. Phillips on his splendid vocalization: save one objectionable cadence, at the conclusion of "Why do the Nations?" he was unobjectionable, and still maintains his supremacy as an exponent of sacred music. Miss Hawes created a great sensation by her most eloquent declamation in the contralto pieces. The choral masses are always glorious in the "Messiah." The instrumental executants exhibit the phenomenon of going well spontaneously. By the way, we should like to ask who is to be attended to by the band. Is it Mr. Surman with his baton, Mr. Perry with his violin bow, or Mr. Miller with his cracked organ? Here is a tripartite conductorship—most absurd. Why not abolish all this absurdity? Let us have a real conductor and a principal violin, or, as the French call him, a chef d'orchestre.

The Madrigalians are coming out. The Old Society, in Freemason's Hall, will celebrate its anniversary the third Thursday in January, Lord Saltoun in the Chair. The Western Madrigal Society meets for the season in the same month. We have as yet no account of Balie's opera of "Estrella," which was to have been produced at the Academie Royale last Monday. We need scarcely draw attention to the seasonable song in another page, the words by the popular poetess, Eliza Cook, and the music the graceful inspiration of the highly gifted Wallace, the composer of "Maritana."

THE THEATRES.

FRENCH PLAYS.

On Monday evening, Molière's celebrated comedy of "Les Femmes Savantes" was produced, giving Mr. Mitchell an opportunity of mustering his dramatic troupe in great force, and of showing what resources he has at hand when the "stars," occasionally shining with such brightness at his theatre, may cease to appear. The intent of all dramatic productions of a domestic character ought to be to expose certain follies in society, which actually exist at the period when such productions are first represented; and, by exhibiting these absurdities in a glaring light, to point out, in the strongest manner, the propriety of correcting them. So it has been with the plays of the olden time; so it was with respect to "Les Femmes Savantes." This play was produced at a period when the sycophants and balled-mongers were in the zenith of their pretensions importance—when the ladies of fashion, having merely wetted their lips with the skimmings of literature and classical lore, neglected all useful employment, and gave themselves entirely up to a vain thirst for acquiring the reputation of being clever. Habit had so inured society to these extravagances, that they were regarded in no wise as ridiculous until the representation of this play, which entirely destroyed them. In no country has the stage so stung an influence over every passing occurrence, in public and private life, as in France.

M. Cartigny, as the father, gave all the ad captandum points with much truthful and comic power. Mlle. Marreille, Mlle. Dumery, and Madame Croët were the three blues; and much credit is due to them for the admirable manner in which they enacted their parts. Mlle. St. Marc played the younger daughter, who is the "contrast" to the other three ladies, with ease, finish, and taste; and M. Lemaire exhibited a keen perception of his character. Indeed, the performance generally, without an exception, was far above mediocrity. The comedy was received throughout with hearty laughter, and the usual expressions of satisfaction. Many adaptations of "Les Femmes Savantes" are known in England: the most felicitous is that by Colley Cibber, entitled "The Refusal."

"Le Chevalier de St. George" followed. This play was represented many nights last season, during M. Lafont's engagement; and, if we mistake not, a translation was very successful at the Princess' Theatre, Mr. Wallack sustaining the principal character. M. Rhozeville made his first appearance this season, as the "Baron de Tourville." The house was very well attended.

PRINCESS'.

A farce was brought out at this house on Wednesday evening called "Jeames, the Railway Footman of Berkeley-square," founded on the papers by Mr. Thackeray that have appeared in "Punch." The piece is divided into three epochs, comprising the rise and fall of the staggering footman. In the first, we have him in his menial capacity in "Buckley-square;" in the second, in his chambers in the Albany; and in the third, giving a grand fête, during which the news arrives of his ruin through the panic in the City; and he is finally obliged to return to his old situation, where, however, he finds his first love, Mary Anne, still true to him. It was entirely a pièce du jour—an "apropos bagatelle," as it is now the fashion to call such productions—and will not bear very close criticism. There were some ludicrous situations, and some laughable jokes, more or less broad, and occasionally vulgar. Mr. Compton was very quaint as the hero, and to him must be assigned the chief credit for bringing the piece through its ordeal. The curtain fell amidst applause, through which, however, some stout hissing was rather unpleasantly audible. But, as an attempt to embody a popular subject, which every body knows something about, the trifle will be, to a certain extent, attractive.

Great preparations are making at DRURY-LANE for Boxing-night, when the pantomime of "Gulliver's Travels" will be produced on a scale of great splendour. The cast is strong, and as follows:—Harlequin, Mr. Wieland; Clown, Mr. T. Mathews; Pantaloons, Mr. Howell; and two Columbines, Miss Hicks and Miss Lansdale—two excellent selections from the corinthées of the theatre. In addition to these, the renowned Professor Risley, and his two sons, will arrive from Vienna to appear; and the scenery, by Mr. Grieve, will be very beautiful. A new opera, by Macfarren, is in rehearsal. It is founded upon, and is to be called, "Don Quixote."

M. Jullien announces his occupation of COVENT-GARDEN for a certain period after Christmas, when the concerts will be continued.

At the ADELPHI, the pantomime is taken from "The King of the Cannibal Islands." A drama, called the "Lioness of the North," is announced; as also is a version of Mr. Dickens's "Cricket on the Hearth."

A new theatre is about to be erected on the vacant space of ground in Leicester-square—one of the most eligible sites in London. The intention of its management is to encourage English authors, musicians, and actors; and it will be, in size, somewhat larger than the Haymarket—the same depth from the proscenium to the centre box of the dress circle, but broader from side to side. This speculation has been undertaken by Mr. Buckstone; and from the known abilities and general dramatic tact of that gentleman, we look forward to its proving successful.

The burlesque at the HAYMARKET is by Mr. Planché, and is founded on the fairy tale of L'Abelle et l'Oranger," in the collection of the Countess D'Anois. It will be called "The Bee and the Orange Tree, or the Four Wishes." Miss Cushman is engaged, as also is her sister, Miss Susan Cushman, and will appear after Christmas.

We perceive that the good folks "on the Surrey side," after Christmas, are to have their Promenade Concerts. The site of the National Baths, in the Westminster Bridge Road, has been tastefully fitted up as a "Music Hall," and on

Friday will be opened à la Musard and Jullien, with an Orchestra of 40 performers, and a chorus of 50 voices. Who will now say that the English are not a musical people?

As a Christmas attraction, Mr. Batty has engaged the wonderful dog Emile.

THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH. A FAIRY TALE OF HOME

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

We have received this charming work only in time to quote a few specimens. Next week we shall pass the story in review.

THE KETTLE.

Mrs. Peerybinge going out into the raw twilight and clicking over the wet stones in a pair of pattens that worked innumerable rough impressions of the first proposition in Euclid all about the yard—Mrs. Peerybinge filled the Kettle at the water butt. Presently returning, less the pattens: and a good deal less, for they were tall and Mrs. Peerybinge was but short: she set the Kettle on the fire. In doing which she lost her temper, or mislaid it for an instant; for the water—being uncomfortably cold, and in that slippery, slushy, sleepy sort of state wherein it seems to penetrate through every kind of substance, patten rings included—had laid hold of Mrs. Peerybinge's toes, and even splashed her legs. And when we rather plume ourselves (with reason too) upon our legs, and keep ourselves particularly neat in point of stockings, we find this, for the moment, hard to bear.

Besides, the Kettle was aggravating and obstinate. It wouldn't allow itself to be adjusted on the top bar; it wouldn't hear of accommodating itself kindly to the knobs of coal; it would lean forward with a drunken air, and dribble, a very idiot of a Kettle, on the hearth. It was quarrelsome; and hissed and spluttered morosely at the fire. To sum up all, the lid, resisting Mrs. Peerybinge's fingers, first of all turned topsy-turvy, and then, with an ingenious pertinacity deserving of a better cause, dived sideways in—down to the very bottom of the Kettle. And the hull of the Royal George has never made half the monstrous resistance to coming out of the water, which the lid of that Kettle employed against Mrs. Peerybinge, before she got it up again.

It looked sullen and pig-headed enough, even then; carrying its handle with an air of defiance, and cocking its spout pertly and mockingly at Mrs. Peerybinge, as if it said, "I won't boil. Nothing shall induce me!"

But Mrs. Peerybinge, with restored good humour, dusted her chubby little hands against each other, and sat down before the Kettle: laughing.

* * * * *

Now it was, you observe, that the Kettle began to spend the evening. Now it was, that the Kettle, growing mellow and musical, began to have irrepressible



PRIZE FANCY RABBITS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

(From a Correspondent.)

Not finding any mention of a very beautiful Lunar Rainbow observed near Northwich, Cheshire, on the 3rd inst., in your last week's paper, I venture to enclose a slight sketch as it appeared about half-past eight on that evening. The afternoon had been very stormy, thunder and lightning, accompanied by heavy showers of rain and hail; but, as evening approached, the rain was less frequent, and at the time I name, the sky was clear and starlight—the moon much obscured by a cloud and near the horizon, but affording sufficient light to form the perfect arch. I have tried to represent the delicate shadowy whiteness that floated over star and cloud while scarcely obscuring them. Jupiter shining brightly above the constellation of Orion, was at first under the centre of the bow; but, during the half-hour of the duration of the phenomenon, several changes took place in its appearance; sometimes fading nearly away, then rising again with fresh brilliancy, till it seemed to divide into two arches, so much flattened at the top as to cover Jupiter; when, finally, this interesting object disappeared.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE BEDFORD AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.

On Saturday last, the works of the Bedford and Birmingham Railway were commenced at about the centre of the line. The spot appointed for turning the first turf was that portion of Brogborough Hill, about four miles from Woburn. At about two o'clock, a large concourse of people had gathered here from Bedford, Woburn, Ampthill, and the surrounding villages; and a profusion of flags and standards were planted along the lands in the direction of the proposed line. A carriage

and four with postillions in scarlet livery, arrived, and it was then announced that the Duke of Bedford, who had arranged to turn the first turf, could not do so, in consequence of his Grace having been suddenly summoned to London to meet Lord John Russell. In order, however,



LUNAR RAINBOW.

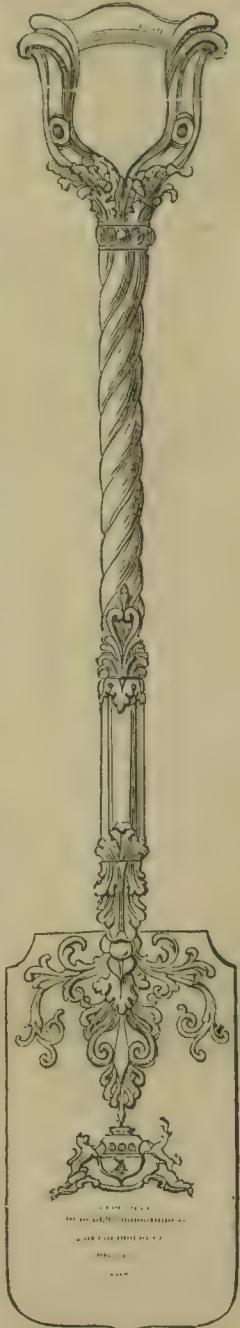
that there might be no delay in the proceedings, the Duchess of Bedford consented to officiate for the Duke, and Lord Alford attended to assist her. Her Grace was conducted to the site of the proposed works, where she was welcomed by the Directors of the Bedford Railway, Mr. Theed Pearce, the secretary, the deputations of the London and Birmingham, and the Eastern Counties lines, Mr. Scott, the engineer, Messrs. Grissell, Peto, and Jackson, the contractors, and a large party, composed principally of the county families and clergy. Her Grace's arrival was announced by a salute of cannon, which was followed by three cheers from the assembly, and a band of music struck up as her Grace was conducted along the temporary platform.

Mr. T. J. Green, of Bedford, the Chairman of the Directors, then explained to the Duchess the line of railway, and invited her Grace to do honour to the proceedings by commencing the works, and handed her the spade. The Duchess curtseyed, and, taking the spade, pressed it into the earth. Lord Alford then took the spade, and, having addressed the company, his Lordship then took off his hat and great coat, and began digging the clay most diligently, until he had filled the barrow, amidst loud cheers. Having filled the barrow, he wheeled it away along the platform, and led the way to a splendid marquee. The cannons were again fired off, flags waved, and the National Anthem was played. On arriving at the marquee, his Lordship emptied his barrow, and then deposited it, together with the spade, at one end of the tent. The barrow was made of beautifully grained oak, grown on the Woburn estate, richly carved and polished. On the front the arms of the Duke of Bedford are carved in a very elaborate style, and beneath them is a silver plate bearing the following inscription:—

"With this barrow
The works of the Bedford and London
and Birmingham Railway
Were commenced by his Grace the
Duke of BEDFORD,
Who turned the first sod on the 13th day
of December, 1845,
Upon lands in the parish of Ilusbo
Crawley, and county of Bedford."

The Spade, in the lower part, whence the twist terminates, is electro-plated, and has the ornaments in full relief; on the centre of the shovel part, are the arms of the Duke, and beneath is engraved an inscription similar to that on the barrow. From the commencement of the twisted part of the spade shaft is oak, cut from the Woburn estate; and just below the handle is a group of oak leaves, acorns, &c., in bold relief, electro-plated. The wood-work was executed by Messrs. Saunders and Woolley, of Regent-street; and the electro-plate by Mr. Smith, of Duke-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

The company then retired to partake of an elegant collation served in the marquee, of which about 200 ladies and gentlemen partook. After several toasts had been drunk, the party broke up; and, on the Duchess of Bedford entering the carriage, another salute was fired: the contractors requested her Grace to accept of the barrow and spade, and they were placed in the carriage. Three cheers were then given, her Grace took her departure, and the company soon after dispersed.



RAILWAY SPADE.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

EGREMONT CASTLE, CUMBERLAND.

The fine ruins of this noble fortress, which was once the seat of the potent Lords of the great Barony of Copeland or Egremont, occupy an eminence about 200 yards to the south-west of the town. Some parts of its walls exhibit indubitable traces of great antiquity, from the occasional introduction of that peculiar kind of masonry known as herring-bone; and from the similarity of its arrangement to the grains in an ear of corn, sometimes more classically termed, "spicata testacea."



EGREMONT CASTLE.

This Castle was built towards the conclusion of the eleventh century, by William de Meschines, on whom the Barony of Copeland was bestowed by his brother, Ranulph, who had received a grant of the whole county from William the Conqueror. It occupies the summit of a mount apparently artificial: the principal remains are a square tower, entered from the south-west by a semi-circular archway, with a groined roof; and a part of the wall which probably divided the inner and outer wards, where are two windows; and a gateway, with grooves for a portcullis, of a more recent date, with pointed arches. The Moat is still to be traced, nearly encircling the Castle; and a stream of water, by which it was formerly supplied, flows on the eastern side. This Castle suffered materially from wanton spoliation, until measures were taken for its prevention by the late Earl of Egremont.

THE CASE OF THE SPANISH PIRATES.—The division of the Judges in the Brazilian pirates' case was eleven against the conviction and two for it. Baron Platt was one of the two, and Baron Alderson the other. Mr. Justice Coleridge and Mr. Justice Cresswell did not sit.



FEARFUL COLLISION OFF GREENHITHE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

PRIZE CATTLE AND IMPLEMENTS.

Upon the present page we have engraved a few of the finest Prizes from the Grand Cattle Show of the Smithfield Club.

On the two first animals we find the following notes:—

OXEN.

CLASS I.—A 3 years and 10 months old short-horned ox, bred by the late Lord Huntingfield, and fed and entered by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. —Third prize of £10. A fine large animal, and decidedly superior to the one entered by his Royal Highness last year.

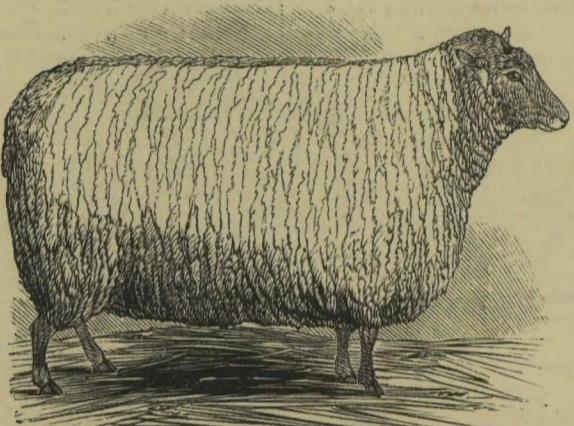


MR. TWITCHELL'S PURE LEICESTER WETHER.

CLASS V.—A 4 years old West Highland ox, entered by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Commanded by the Judges: a fine large beast of its kind. His Royal Highness appears to be partial to the Scotch breed, perhaps because he has a vivid recollection of his reception among the northern Thanes.

The following are the details of the remaining Prizes engraved:—

CLASS VIII.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Leicester, of Holkham, Norfolk, a 11 years and 2 months old North Devon cow, bred by the late Mr. G. Talbot, of Temple Guiting, near Winchcombe, Gloucester, and fed on Swedish



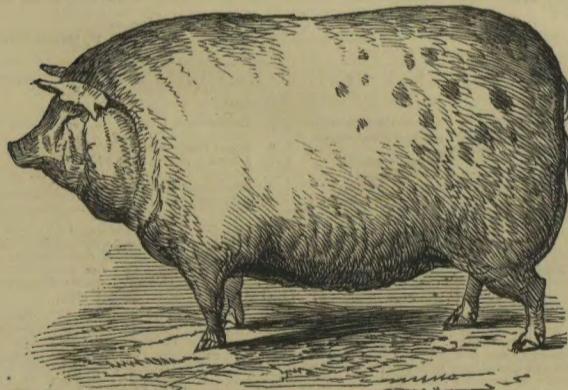
MR. S. WEBB'S SOUTHDOWN WETHER.

turnips, mangold-wurtzel, hay, oil-cake, and bean-meal. Travelled to the show by van 40 miles, and by railway 70 miles; has had four calves.—First prize, £15, and silver medal.

SHEEP.

CLASS XI.—Mr. Thomas Twitchell, of Willington, near St. Neots, Bedfordshire, a pen of three 20 months old pure Leicester wethers, bred by himself, from rams hired of Mr. Samuel Bennett, of Bickering's Park, near Woburn, Bedfordshire.—First prize, £20, and silver medal.

CLASS XV.—Mr. Samuel Well, of Babraham, near Cambridge, a pen of three 32 months old Southdown wethers, bred by Mr. H. J. Adean, of Babraham, from rams hired of Mr. Jonas Webb, of Babraham.—First prize, £20, and silver medal.



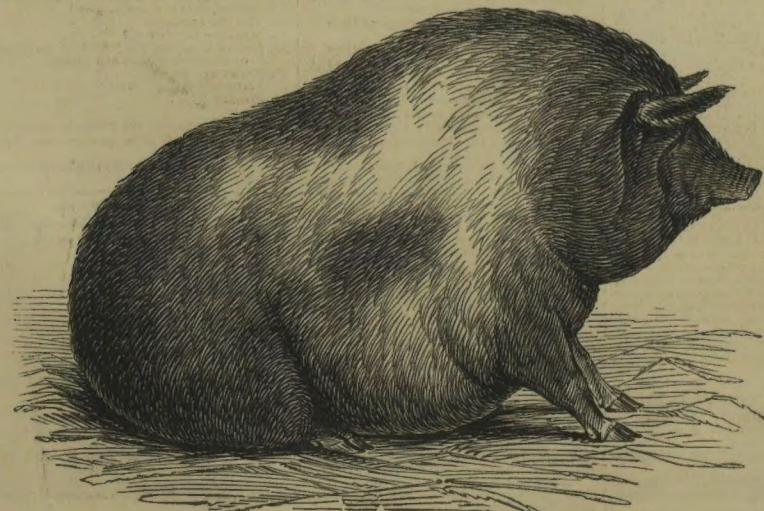
MR. C. ELEY'S BERKS AND YORK PIG.

PIGS.

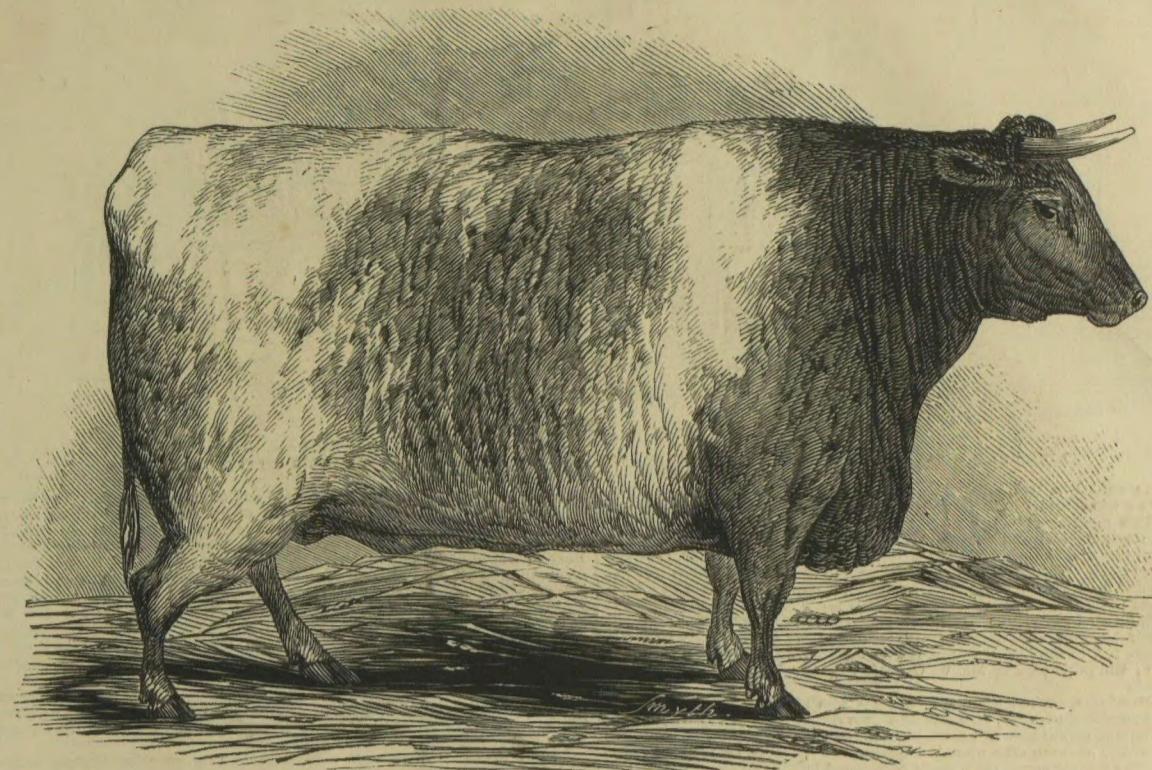
CLASS XVI.—Mr. Charles Eley, of Heathfield Farm, near Hounslow, Middlesex, a pen of three 18 weeks and 2 days old Berkshire and Yorkshire pigs, bred by Mr. C. Eley, sen., and fed on buckwheat, barley, and pea-meal, and milk.—First prize, £10, and silver medal.

CLASS XVII.—Mr. H. M. L. Whiting, of Heston, near Hounslow, Middlesex, a pen of three 32 weeks and 4 days old improved Buckinghamshire pigs, bred by himself, and fed on barley and pea-meal, skimmed milk, and linseed.—First prize, £10, and silver medal.

We next submit to our readers a few Engravings of important Implements, for which we had not room in our last number.



MR. H. M. L. WHITING'S IMPROVED BUCKS PIG.



PRINCE ALBERT'S SHORT-HORNED OX.

Stacey's Double Mill, and Beart's Tile Machine, exhibited by their respective inventors. Dean's Gorse Crusher was too late to be admitted on the Gallery. Cambridge's Hand Thrashing Machine, Corne's Chaff Cutter, and Richmond's Steaming Apparatus, were exhibited only in Models, having been withdrawn in consequence of the expense of transport.

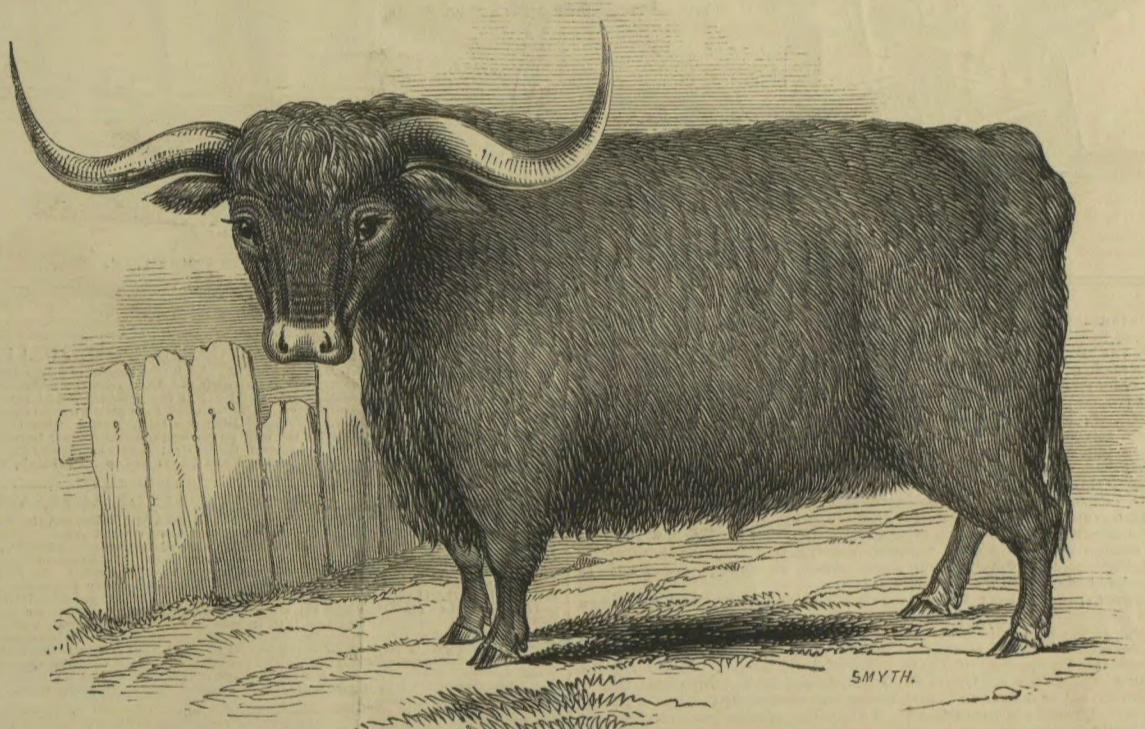
MR. G. STACEY, UXBRIDGE.—Stand 45.

A very simple combination of a Corn Crusher with a Bean Mill. A NEW MACHINE, which, when worked in the ordinary way, and the corn is allowed to drop from the end of the spout, it is a CRUSHER; but when the motion of

the winch is reversed, and the little trap door in the spout is opened so as to admit the beans between another pair of rollers, it then performs the office of a BEAN MILL, and for both purposes is a most compact and efficient little Implement.

MR. BEART, GODMANCHESTER.—Stand 79.

BEART'S TILE-MAKING MACHINE was in full operation during the show, and fully maintained its reputation as a simple and efficient implement. Several prizes have been awarded to it. In working this machine the inventor recommends using only a small quantity of clay, by which much



PRINCE ALBERT'S WEST HIGHLAND OX.

unnecessary friction against the sides of the cylinder is avoided, and the form and texture of the tiles improved.

A NEW MACHINE FOR CRUSHING AND CUTTING GORSE, to render this most nutritious, though thorny shrub, available as food for Cattle. Manufactured by Mr. Dean, of Birmingham.

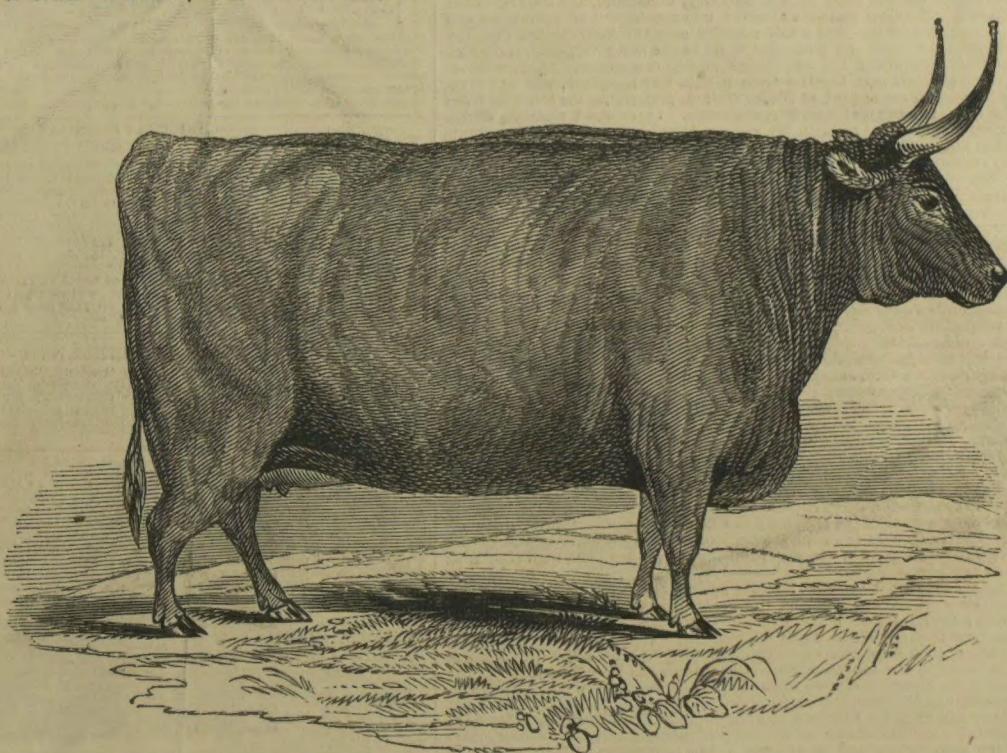
MODELS, BY MESSRS. COTTAM AND HALLEN.—Stand 82.

A PATENT HAND-LEVER THRASHING MACHINE, invented and manufactured by Mr. CAMBRIDGE, of WILTSHIRE. This is a unique piece of mechanism, and differs from all others in the mode of communicating rotary motion by the agency of levers. It is stated, that with this machine, four

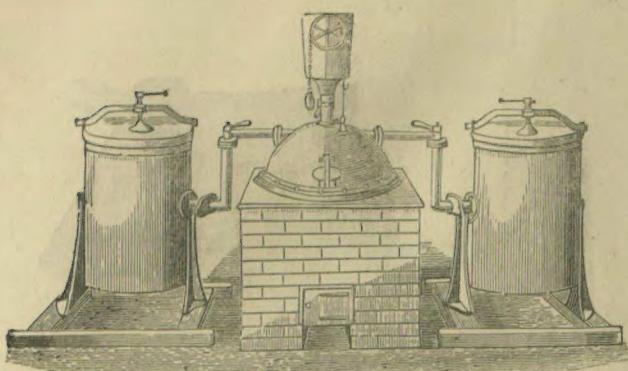
men and three boys can thrash 80 bushels of wheat in a day, without injuring either corn or straw.

AN IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR STEAMING ROOTS, &c., FOR CATTLE.—The steam generated in the boiler passes through the tube to the vegetable pans on either side; the tubes are connected to the pans by a stuffing-box, in the fulcrum, by which means the pans can be turned up, and vegetables shot out, without disconnecting them from their fittings. Invented and improved by Mr. Richmond, of Salford, near Manchester.

A PATENT THREE KNIFE CHAFF CUTTER, invented by Mr. J. CORNES, of BARBRIDGE, CHESHIRE, manufactured by Mr. Cambridge, to be worked



THE EARL OF LEICESTER'S NORTH DEVON COW.



RICHMOND'S STEAM ING APPARATUS.

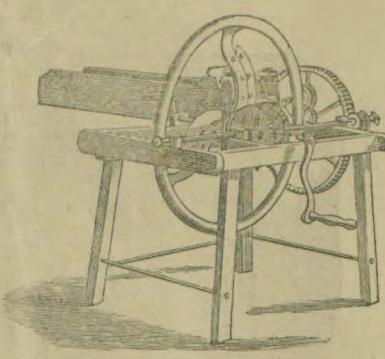
by two men. It is furnished with pinions of varied diameters, which, gear ing into a wheel attached to the axle of the feed roller, regulate the length of cut. This machine obtained a prize of £10 at the Shrewsbury Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

In our last week's notice of the Cattle Show, we stated, in error, that the iron roof lately erected over the area set apart for that exhibition, was designed and constructed by Mr. Wm. Boulnois, jun. We have since been informed that the designer and constructor is Mr. F. Bramwell, superintendent of the Fair Field Works, Bow, the proprietors of which establishment, Messrs. Adams and Co., were the contractors for its execution.

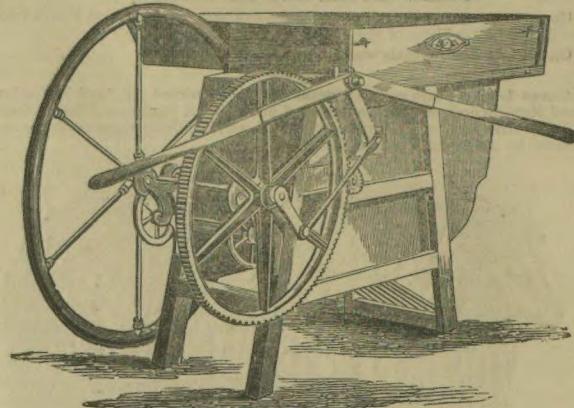
At page 375, in the List of Prizes, the Heifer was fed by Mr. Trinden, not Trind r; and purchased by Mr. W. Cooper, not Copeland, of Bridge street, Abingdon.

On Monday morning, Smithfield Market was attended by a numerous body of butchers, graziers, farmers, and drovers, and by a curious, eight seeing public, all anxious to have a look at the show of prize and other fat cattle, and to pass remarks upon the quality and number of animals exhibited. The market presented a scene of unusual bustle and excitement; the bellowing of the oxen, lowing of the cows, bleating of sheep, squaking of pigs, hallooing of the drovers, screaming of the women who are hardy enough to trust themselves in the market, quarrelling of men, and pushing and driving of the thronging mass of spectators—altogether forming a picture which baffles all attempt at delineation.

Apart from the actual business of the day—the buying and selling—the butchers, graziers, and others were engrossed with the result of the Prize Cattle Show, and its general features, the number and quality and award of



CORNE'S CHAFF-CUTTER.



CAMBRIDGE'S HAND-LEVER THRESHING MACHINE.

prizes being warmly and freely discussed and commented upon. The Show, also, upon Smithfield stones to day was, of course, jointly and separately analyzed and criticized. As usual, there had been inflated statements circulated amongst some parties that the Show, both on the stones and at the Bazaar, would present something very superior to the exhibitions of former years. Amongst impartial and practical men, however, a juster opinion was formed upon the subject, and the result proves the soundness of their judgment, which, upon the whole, was very favourable; but it has not escaped the observation of many persons competent to form a correct opinion, that during the last two or three years there has been a falling off in the degree of perfection to which the animals have been brought, in comparison with preceding exhibitions.

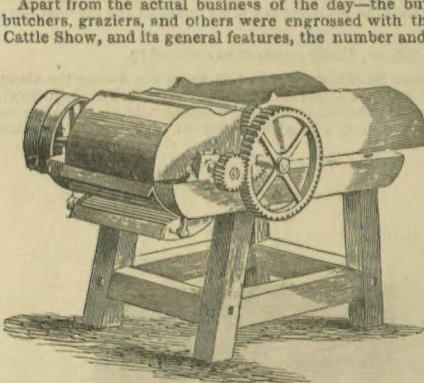
On Monday, "the great day" at Smithfield, the show of cattle was exceedingly good; and, as purchasers were present from all parts of England, the trade was not so dull as would have been the case under the circumstances previous to the formation of railways.

Among the cattle there were a good many very superior Scotch beasts; and some extraordinarily fat compact animals of this description, sold by Messrs. Guerrier and Giblett, attracted a good deal of attention, as also some very superior large Runts, Herefords, &c., by the same salesmen. The

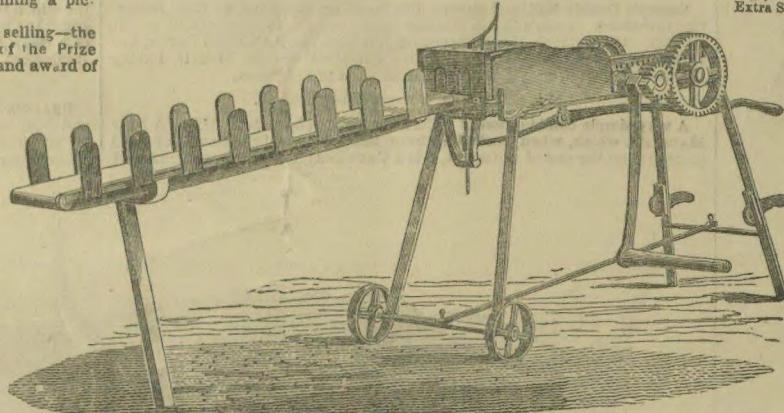
show of Mr. Guerrier was about the best in the market, but Mr. Collings and other salesmen had consignments of very superior and extraordinary animals. On the whole, the show of beef was by some considered finer than last year, but others entertained a different opinion. The supply of sheep was small for the time of year, but generally of a very fine description, and, if anything, also in advance of the show of 1844. Amongst the many pens of very superior fat sheep, some extraordinary Gloucesters of Mr. Faulkner, Mr. Large, and Mr. Wm. Ewer, sold by Mr. Giblett, attracted, for their great size and symmetry, general and unqualified approbation; these, with others of similar beauty, were the chief attraction with the mere spectators.

The following statistics of the Prize Show at Baker-street for the last and present year will exhibit the comparative results:—

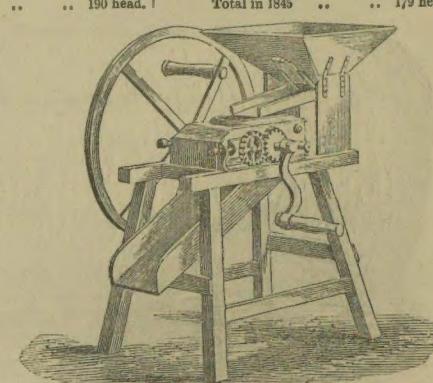
	1844.	Number.	1845.	Number.	
Oxen and Steers	59	Oxen and Steers ..	..	49
Cows and Heifers	21	Cows and Heifers ..	..	23
Extra Stock Cattle	19	Extra Stock Cattle ..	..	12
Long Woolled Sheep	22	Long Woolled Sheep ..	..	18
Extra Stock ditto	16	Extra Stock ditto ..	..	11
Long and Short Woolled Cross-bred	4	Long and Short Woolled Cross-bred ..	..	5
Short Woolled	23	Short Woolled ..	..	22
Extra Stock ditto	11	Extra Stock ditto ..	..	10
Pigs, in classes	9	Pigs, in classes ..	..	15
Extra Stock Pigs	6	Extra Stock Pigs ..	..	11
Total in 1844	190 head.	Total in 1845 ..	..	179 head.



DEAN'S GORSE CRUSHER.



BART'S TILE-MAKING MACHINE.



STACY'S DOUBLE CRUSHER.

THE RAILWAY PROGRESS.

BRIGHTON AND CROYDON.—The Croydon Company has accepted the terms offered by the Brighton Company, and the amalgamation is now fully settled. PLANS DEPOSITED WITH THE BOARD OF TRADE.—A computation has been made of the capital required for the railways deposited with the Board of Trade:—For England, £334,400,000; Scotland, 30,000,000; Ireland, £25,000,000; total capital, £389,400,000. Of this amount many of the lines are duplicates; and, in some cases, three, four, five, and six lines are deposited for the same scheme, or schemes, to the same place. That will not affect the amount of deposits, if they are all made, which would be £29 250,000, or 10 per cent. on three fourths of the capital. But the deposit is only required to be on three fourths of the estimates, which deposit may not be 20 millions. Probably, not two thirds of this sum will be deposited.

BRIGHTON AND CHELTENHAM.—This Company, who, at recent meetings, announced their intention of returning the deposits, less ten shillings per share, issued a notice on Saturday evening, informing the shareholders that they could not fulfil their engagements, in consequence of a bill in Chancery having been filed against them.

PROTECTION AGAINST RAILWAY LITIGATION.—A meeting of gentlemen took place on Saturday, at the offices of Mr. John Harrison, 5, New Inn, Strand, to devise measures to be taken in consequence of legal proceedings having been threatened by several Companies. Allusion was made to several disreputable Companies, who have declared their intention to sue for the amount of deposits on letters of allotment, and it was suggested that a society should be formed to defend the actions so commenced, and which, it was stated, could not be sustained. A discussion of some length took place, and it was agreed that a more public meeting should be called on Saturday next (to-day), to reconsider the matter, and, if found necessary, forthwith to establish the society.

THE BROAD AND NARROW GAUGES.—On Tuesday, the first experimental trip of a series which the Gauge Commissioners instituted for the purpose of testing the comparative capacities of the broad and narrow gauges was made on the part of the Great Western line between Paddington and Didcot, a distance of fifty-three miles. The experiment was tried with the Exon engine, and the train consisted of eight carriages, six of the first class and two of the second. Amongst those who went by the train were Sir Frederick Smith, late Inspector General of Railways, and Professor Barlow, both on the commission; General Pasley, Inspector General of Railways; Captain O'Brien, of the Board of Trade; J. W. Brooke, Esq.; I. K. Brunel, Esq., C.E.; G. P. Bidder, Esq., C.E.; P. M. Barlow, Esq., Resident Engineer of the South Eastern line; Messrs. Berkeley, Stevenson, and several other gentlemen. The time appointed for the commencement of operations was ten o'clock, and at two and a half minutes past the hour the train left the Paddington terminus, and proceeded as far as the first mile post from which it had been determined the experiment should commence. At six minutes and three quarters past ten the train left its starting place, and at twelve minutes past eleven arrived at Didcot Station, performing the fifty-two miles in one hour, five minutes, and fifteen seconds. There was a tolerably strong head wind against the train in its course downwards, and nearly a minute was lost at the West London crossing in consequence of the hoisting of the usual stoppage signal. The return experiment commenced at eight minutes and twenty seconds past twelve and the train arrived at the last milestone at nine minutes past one, accomplishing the fifty-two miles in one hour and forty seconds. The maximum speed in the down-train was a mile in one minute and five seconds, and in the up train, a mile in one minute and two seconds. It may be added that a distance of thirteen miles in the up trip was performed in four minutes and forty seconds. The speed was considered extraordinary, from the fact of the engine drawing 81 tons 13 cwt., exclusive of itself and the tender. For the second trip the train started from Paddington at two o'clock, and accomplished the distance in sixty minutes. The return trip occupied fifty-five minutes. It is expected that the experiments on one of the broad gauge lines (probably the London and Birmingham) will take place in the course of a few days. The experimental runs were renewed on Wednesday. The maximum speed on the down trip was exactly one mile per minute; and the maximum of that on the return was 62 miles per hour. The down train, upon leaving the Sunning hill cutting, was doing 59 miles per hour; but such was the greasy state of the rails, that they were obliged to reduce the power of the engine to prevent the wheels slipping, and this reduced power was continued for about ten miles. The twenty-two miles between the 11th and 33d mile posts were done in 22 minutes 33 seconds; and it was at this point of the journey, and when every body was expecting a most extraordinary result, that the wheels began to slip, in consequence of the rails being in a bad state, arising from the drizzling rain. The train was again in requisition, the only difference being that the experiment was with six carriages instead of ten, and with sixty tons instead of eighty.

MISCELLANEOUS RAILWAY NEWS.—Among the items of Railway intelligence this week we may mention the suspension at present of the project called the Grand Junction and Midland Union Railway. The Manchester, Rugby and Derby, and the Great Eastern and Western Railway Companies have come to the resolution of breaking up and returning the deposits, less the expenses to the shareholders.—An agreement to amalgamate at part between the Sheffield, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Manchester; the Huddersfield Canal and Railway, the Sheffield and Lincolnshire Extension, the Great Grimsby and Sheffield Junction, and the Grimsby Dock Companies, has been concluded with satisfaction to the various parties interested.—It appears to have been determined to appoint a new Committee of Management to investigate the affairs of the Direct London and Exeter Railway.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—M. JULLIEN'S GRAND AND ANNUAL BAL MASQUE. M. Jullien begs leave most respectfully to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry that the above Grand Annual Entertainment will take place on MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1845. TICKETS for the BALL, 10s. 6d. each. The audience will be admitted from 8 o'clock. The Theatre will, as before, be set apart for Spectators who may thence enjoy the brilliant and unique scenes. Prices of Admission for Spectators—Dress Circle, 5s; boxes, 3s; galleries, 2s. Tickets for the ball, private boxes, and places may be secured on application to Mr. O'Reilly, at the box-office of the theatre; tickets for the ball and private boxes also at the libraries of Messrs. Mitchell and Sams; and at M. Jullien's, 214, Regent-street.

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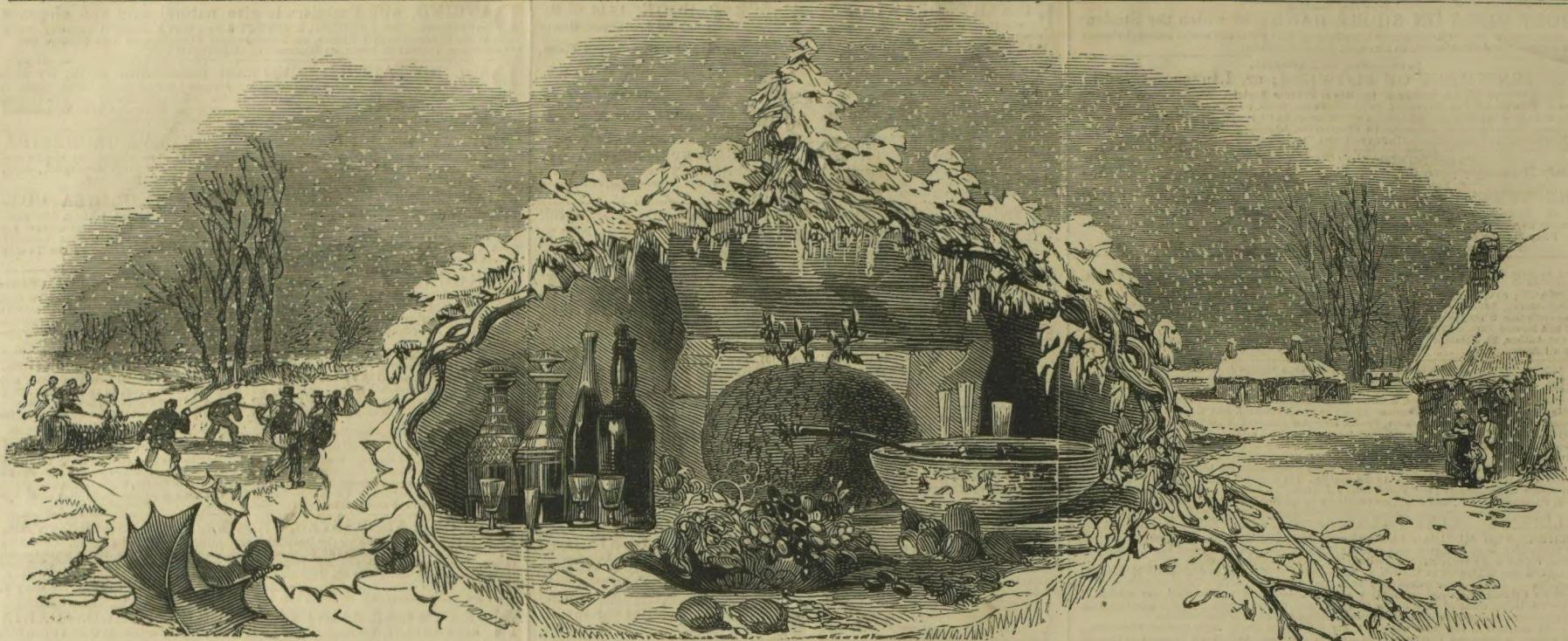
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hail, with hap - py glad-ness, to the well-known chant that swells! We list the peal-ing an-them chord, we hear the mid-night strain, And love the ti - dings that pro-claim Old

Christ-mas once a - gain. But there must be a me - lo - dy of pu - rer, deep - er sound, A rich key-note, whose e - cho runs through all the mu - sic round; Let

rall.

Chorus.

kind - ly voi - ces ring be - neath low roof or pa - lace dome, For these a - lone are ca - rol chimes that bless a Christ - mas home! Then fill once more from Bounty's store red

ff allegro

a tempo

wine or nut-brown foam, And drink to kind - ly voi - ces, in an En - glish Christmas Home!

rall.

A blythe and joyous welcome to the berries and the leaves
That hang about our household-walls in dark and rustling sheaves:
Up with the holly and the bay, set laurel on the board,
And let the mistletoe look down while pledging-draughts are poured.
But there must be some hallowed bloom to garland with the rest;
All, all must bring toward the wreath some flowers in the breast;
For though green boughs may thickly grace low roof or palace-dome,
Warm hearts alone will truly serve to deck a Christmas Home!

Chorus.

Then fill once more from Bounty's store red wine or nut-brown foam,
And drink to honest hearts within an English Christmas Home!